CHINA WEEKLY

REVIEW

密勒氏評論報

A Weekly Newspaper Established In 1917

THE AMERICAN SCENE

JOHN W. POWELL

LABOR CONDITIONS IN ASIA

WFTU REPORTS

WOMEN IN CHINA:

GROWTH OF WOMEN'S MOVEMENT— "SHE," a short story— LIBERATION OF WOMEN, an editorial

DECEMBER 3, 1949

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LETTERS From The People

Comments from readers on current topics are cordially invited: their opinions, however, do not necessarily represent the views of The China Weekly Review.

RUBBISH

To The Editor:

In the November 19 issue of the Review I found a letter signed G. Amerchine. It was in the form of a "poem" written to express G. Amerchine's thoughts about America. The writer had just returned from that country.

Of the American people (straightening out this "poem" into prose) the writer says: "I found a people that were blind and deaf; crazy for sex, jazz, dancing and drinking. . . . They cannot converse or think, but only wisecrack. Their minds are doped with mysteries and trash. . . . The Americans are no longer free although they still give lip-service to freedom. . . ."

I should like to express my dismay that there should be such sentiment in the new China, and that the Review should publish a letter expressing such sentiment.

It seems to me that the Review can do much to strengthen the friendship between the peoples of America and China. I realize that magazines are generally bound to publish letters received, but would it not be better to throw such rubbish as G. Amerchine's bogus poetry into your wastepaper basket?

If there are a few individuals who think the American people are blind, deaf and unable to think, they should take note of Henry Wallace's Progressive Party, of the staunch internationalism of Paul Robeson, of men like Harry Bridges.

Those who vilify the people of any nation are the enemies of world peace.

A. H. F.

Shanghai
November 20, 1949

STUDENTS' PROPOSALS

To The Editor:

The Shanghai Students' Conference has victoriously adjourned. This is entirely due to the victory of the people's revolutionary war. We students, under the leadership of the CCP, and arm in arm with the residents of Shanghai, are firmly determined to work for the People's Central Government and the Common Program, to study the new democratic principles much harder than ever, and to struggle for the reconstruction of the new Shanghai as well as of the new China.

The different suggestions put forward by the students of 119 schools have been earnestly collected and there are altogether 273 in number. Those submitted by the students of Fuhtan include:

1) In order to raise the educational standard of the masses, we students should take advantage of Sundays to engage in social education. The first thing to do is for the students of various schools to make an investigation of the concrete conditions of the residents around their schools. If necessary, popular night schools should be set up. Besides, the educational standard of the masses can also be raised by means of the wall paper, operas, cartoons, etc. When possible, we may help hold an old men's conference. We should visit them now and then and render services to them such as writing letters, cleaning paths, etc.

2) In order to keep students healthy, a student hospital should be opened. In the past, under the persecution of the KMT, it was almost impossible for us students to pay attention to physical training and consequently the health of most of us was impaired. This is very dangerous to the prospects of the new China. The students in Shanghai are going to play an important part in the reconstruction of the new China, and their health conditions should not be overlooked. This hospital should be accessible to all students.

3) In order to raise the political standard of the masses, a Marxism-Leninism Library must be set up. This library should be open all day long to everyone. Books therein would not be allowed to be taken out, but everyone may read them freely at the library. In the past there were few progressive and revolutionary books in the school library. In order to cure the political blindness of the masses, such a library has to be set up.

4) In order to solve the problem of unemployment, the government should be responsible to every one of the graduates of the universities and colleges for their jobs. In the past, under the rule of the KMT, there was a proverb on the lips of all: "Commencement is unemployment." Now that we are liberated, that proverb should no longer remain true. Since the liberation, almost every day it has been heard that one must serve the people wholeheartedly. But first of all we must be given a chance to serve them.

5) On Sundays and festival days, educational pictures should be presented to students without charge.

6) If economically possible, a Student Square and a Scientific Hall for Students should be built in the shortest possible time so that we can have fixed places to hold student conferences and to make scientific experiments.

FRANCIS HANLING CHOW
Fuhtan University
Shanghai
November 17, 1949

GENUINE PATRIOTISM

To The Editor:

In today's issue of the Hsin Min Pao, Nanking, I came across a definition of patriotism, which I thought might be of interest to your readers. The passage I quote is from Liu Shao-chi's "Dissertion on Internationalism and Nationalism."

"Genuine patriotism means the wholeheated love for the excellent traditions of one's fatherland, fellow countrymen, language and race, which have been handed down from generation to generation for several thousands of years. Such patriotism is absolutely free from the nationalism maintained by arrogant, selfish and anti-foreign bourgoisie. Unadulterated patriotism respects other races on a basis of equality. At the same time it calls for the realization, in one's own country, of the superlative ideology of mankind of the world, and advocates brotherly love and solidarity between the peoples of different nations."

E. C. CHIANG.

Nanking
November 19, 1949

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Vol. 116 Shanghai, Saturday, December 3, 1949 No. 1

THE LIBERATION OF WOMEN

WHEN Shanghai celebrated the formation of the new People's Government of China at the beginning of October, some of us who watched the parades saw among the ranks of the marchers a housewives' demonstration. No other group drew such applause. The men leaned out of windows and stood on tip-toe to cheer. It was a novelty, and some of the applause was mixed with good-humored laughter. The women were coming up in the world.

This month in Shanghai, the Democratic Women's Federation, which includes the housewives, has been meeting, and one of the complaints raised by delegates is that in the cotton mills, where some 70 percent of the workers are women, the trade unions are "dominated" by men. The women themselves have allowed the men to take the leading positions; but now things must be changed.

This, too, may draw some good-humored laughter.

In China, liberation for the male half of the population can always be treated with the utmost solemnity; but when the liberation of women is mentioned few can suppress a smile. No doubt there would be the same reaction among males everywhere in the world: the wry smiles and the mock alarm.

* * *

IN Peking in April, the first All-China Women's Congress was opened. The congress was held under silken banners in the throne room of the old imperial palace. Here, for the first time in history, the women of China met together. Among the delegates there were mill workers, guerilla fighters and peasant mothers. There were many who were sold or taken away by landlords in payment of some trivial debt; girls who were slaves at the age of four, beaten, starved, tormented, raped, forced to work day and night and eventually sold, at a profit, in marriage or to brothel keepers by the landlords.

There was delegate Liu Ching-ying, aged 31, who was already a grandmother with a married son over 18 years old. There was Cheng Li-hung, a girl from Tsingtao, who told a correspondent: "A friend of mine worked right up to two days before she died of tuberculosis. She had a family to support. She would mix bean husks with corn to stop her hunger and her stomach was huge though her arms were just bone. Her family had no money for a coffin and we workers found the wood."

Is the life of these women a laughing matter? Why are there so many wry smiles?

It was said that some of the women delegates at the Peking conference could not keep back their tears when they spoke of their past experiences. These women were no pampered darlings of the rich: they were those "half as useful as an ox, if not quite as helpful as a hired hand." They were workers.

It seems that we have a great deal to learn. The women's congresses that have been held, those now in progress such as the Asian Women's Conference meeting in Peking, and those that will be held, need a great deal more publicity. The real situation of women in China in the past, and their present problems, should be learned by heart.

* * *

WOMEN workers make up a great part of the labor force in the light industries of China. On the land, in handicrafts, even in boat transportation, women workers are an important section of the producers.

In the liberated areas, the government has taken note of this fact. Complete freedom and equality for women are guaranteed by law and by economic independence. There has been a great change.

The application of the principle of equality in the older liberated areas is quite advanced. The length of the working day has been shortened, no women may work in unsuitable trades and, as far as possible, night work is avoided. Leave, on full pay, for confinement is 45 days with a shorter rest for miscarriage. Equal pay for equal work is scheduled.

It is recognized that to change the inferior status of women and drive out the evils of the past, women must have economic independence. Slavery, polygamy, concubinage and prostitution will be wiped out when women, universally, can find suitable productive work and receive for their work the same wages as men.

On the land changes have not been as rapid as in the cities but the problem is being tackled at its roots in the rights of property ownership and inheritance. Under the basic program on the Chinese agrarian law, put out by the Communist Party in 1947, land must be allocated to the peasants whatever their age or sex. The land title deeds which give women ownership of land for the first time in the history of China are, as one writer has pointed out, their charter of social equality. In addition to the new property rights, all women in the countryside are helped and encouraged to do spare time work to enhance the family income. In producer and consumer cooperatives they learn to assume new responsibilities. Literacy classes, and instruction in child welfare and hygiene, go hand in hand with participation in local government.

Women are already taking part in local governments and in the highest authority of the state, the People's Political Consultative Conference. Of the total of 662 delegates elected to the PPCC, 69 delegates, slightly more than 10 percent, were

women. It is expected that women will take a proportionately greater and greater part in public life. The PPCC itself guaranteed the position of women by writing into its Common Program the following Article 6: "The People's Republic of China abolishes the feudal system which holds women in bondage. Women shall enjoy equal rights with men in political, economic, cultural, educational and social life. Freedom of marriage for men and women shall be enforced."

As might be expected, progress in the newly liberated areas is still very uneven. Reports of the recent Women's Federation meeting in Shanghai show how much there is to be done. Factory nurseries are one of the major tasks this year. It is understandable that women workers who must spend long hours in the factories, and care for their families unaided at the same time, cannot have the time or energy to compete freely with men. The double difficulties of women call for special measures. In the extension of factory nurseries, the setting up of consumer cooperatives, and the creation of new educational and medical facilities, the needs of women are to be represented both through the trade unions and through the women's federations.

The women's federations in the cities will also help the women in the rural areas to organize their own schools and cooperatives, and to promote hygiene and child welfare work.

The great change is spreading throughout China. It will no longer be the unhappiest of fates to be born a daughter in a peasant family or in the family of a city worker.

* * *

YET, the change may not easily be accomplished. There will be the wry smiles for many years to come.

It is so frequently assumed that the women themselves do not wish to be liberated from all the restrictions of the past. We have read of a case in the cooperative movement in Tientsin where men objected to the inclusion of women in positions of responsibility because women were still too feudal-minded. It was imagined that the past could not be overcome by the women themselves. But, when a proper investigation was made, all concerned reached the startling conclusion that it was not in the minds of the women that feudal ideas persisted, but in the minds of the men. Contrary to expectations, it was the men who most needed to mend their ways.

If the conferences of women have achieved one result it has been the acknowledgement of the already great achievements of the women of China, in the war of resistance against Japan, in the struggle for national liberation, and in reconstruction.

The conclusions are simple and far-reaching. At the All-China Women's Congress in Peking, delegate Teng Ying-chao told the gathering that women of liberated China had produced more than 50,000,000 pairs of shoes to equip the People's Army. "Is there any wonder," she said, "that in such places men have had to discard the idea that women are useless? Can husbands and mothers-in-law suppress women who are organized to weave cloth and earn a large share of the family income?"

TRADE UNION CONFERENCE

AN abundant wealth of material is coming out of the trade union conference of Asian and Australasian countries which has been meeting in Peking for the last two weeks. Few persons, reading the reports made by trade union delegates from India, Burma, Indonesia, Vietnam, Korea, Mongolia and the other countries represented at the conference, can fail to be impressed by the shocking denial of human rights and low standard of living in the colonial and semi-colonial countries on the one hand, and the steady strides toward full employment and better living conditions in those countries which have managed to shake off foreign exploitation.

Nor is it possible, reading these reports, to miss the impact that China's liberation is having on the other Asiatic countries. It is certain that delegates who have come to China for this meeting and who are touring the various cities, visiting factories and talking to government officials and labor leaders on trade union problems will have much to report on their return to their home countries.

We wish there were space to print in full the detailed and moving accounts presented by these trade unionists. However, readers are referred to pages five through eight for highlights of some of the reports made at this significant conference.

The proceedings also throw more perspective on the split within the World Federation of Trade Unions which resulted in the withdrawal of the British Trade Union Congress and the American Congress of Industrial Organizations from the WFTU. They charged at the time that the WFTU was "Communist-dominated" and that it was laying too much emphasis on "political" questions rather than confining itself to "straight trade union" issues.

Needed: New Readers

Since the appeal to readers last August, response has been gratifying. A large number of readers have expressed their support of the Review. However, the Review needs still more support if it is to continue to serve its readers, both in China and abroad.

For one reason or another, most of those local firms which formerly advertised in the Review have dropped out. Thus, the Review today has come to depend almost entirely upon its readers. If continued publication is to be assured, the Review must obtain more readers quickly.

The Review needs 1,000 new readers. The addition of this number would bring the magazine close to a break even point and, while not solving all difficulties by any means, would provide the needed margin to carry on during these difficult days.

There are several ways in which readers can help the Review:

1) Renew subscriptions promptly, for as long a period as possible. Those readers whose subscriptions have not yet expired but who are in a position to add to the length of their subscriptions by renewals now are urged to do so.

2) Readers are asked to interest their friends and acquaintances in the Review. If you have a friend who is a potential subscriber, send in his or her name and address and a sample copy of the Review will be sent to him.

3) Occasional readers who buy a copy now and then from the news stands are urged to become regular readers by subscribing.

4) Buy a subscription for a friend. If you can possibly do so, introduce the Review to a friend by subscribing for him.

In Asia, at least, this charge boomerangs on those who make it, for in each country, as this conference is demonstrating, the existence of trade union rights is dependent upon the political climate.

It is safe to predict that the Asian Federation of Labor set up by this splinter group will make very little headway against the WFTU by ignoring, or pretending to ignore, the political issues in Asia.

THE LAST ACT

THE Kuomintang's protest to the United Nations, blaming Soviet Russia for the victory of the PLA in China, General Pai Chung-hsi's call for foreign mercenaries, the scurrying to Korea and Japan and back of Chennault, the revelation that several Japanese generals have been directing Kuomintang strategy in South China perhaps have some value and are thus newsworthy in that they illustrate quite well the floundering last act of a discredited and repudiated regime.

Such activities, which at one time would have been considered of great importance and which would probably have affected the lives of many people, today are given only scant attention in the press. The comings and goings of the ex-Generalissimo evoke less popular interest than does the amusing story of a nameless Kuomintang general, who has fled to Pakistan from the Northwest, indignantly denying a report that he was delayed in his flight and almost didn't make it because of a large and heavy sack of gold bars which he was dragging along with him.

The employment of Japanese generals, especially ones on the Allies' "purge" list and ones who served in China during the war, indicates just what kind of a guy Chiang Kai-shek is. Not only is he willing to employ recognized enemies of the Chinese people in his efforts to enforce his rule, but he demonstrates his complete lack of confidence in himself and his own military gang.

The hauling of sacks of gold bars across the border by fleeing Kuomintang officials is nothing new and was to be expected. Such acts merely conform to the pattern established by these people long ago. The call for foreign mercenaries is also an old story. T. F. Tsiang's charge of Russian help to the People's Government, aside from being rather ridiculous (even the American "White Paper" was unable to find any evidence of Russian help to China's Communists), only serves to provide an opportunity for quoting the recent remark of one Peking observer: "Nationalist China's delegation to the UN consists of a man named Chiang (Tsiang) representing another man named Chiang."

These things, however, are worthy of note in that they remind us of the past and how much progress has been made in a few short months. Further, they show clearly the basic nature of the KMT regime and indicate to what extent the old gang is capable of descending in its efforts to clutch at last straws.

25 Years Ago In *The China Weekly Review*

Revolt Against Missionary Education

November 29, 1924.

Probably the most radical and revolutionary action striking at foreign missionary-educational interests in China was that taken by the annual China Educational Conference held in Kaifeng, the capital of Honan Province, during the latter part of October. . . .

The Resolutions, which apparently were the result of an investigation of missionary education in China by a committee of Chinese educators, apparently were presented to the Conference and after discussion in executive session passed. . . . The resolutions in full follow:

"After full examination of the whole problem (that of schools organized by foreigners in China) we report on the necessity of the Government's regaining control of all educational activities now exercised by foreigners in China. Foreigners in China, in the conduct of their educational work, exhibit many evils, of which the four following must be emphasized:

"I. In every country Education is a most important inner function of Government. The schools operated by foreigners are not registered with the Government, nor do they receive or observe the Government instructions. This gradually alienates the Government's exclusive right to educate.

"II. Each country has some ruling idea on which it builds its educational fabric. Foreign races by temperament and ideals are different from our people. The education of each country is, or should be, peculiarly fitted to each; thus no other can quite harmonize with our needs. This means that they interfere with the attainment of our educational ideal.

"III. Moreover by the conduct of their peculiar systems they really buy the affections of our people, making them in reality colonists of their countries. Though this may not be the intent, no plan could have been more cunningly laid, for the change is all unconsciously going on. Thus those educated under a Japanese system learn to love Japan. So for England, America, and France. Thus the peculiar National spirit of independence and the student's mind, that should be first for his country, is impaired. Thus the content of the system of education devised by foreigners is apparent. The administrators of the schools are either preachers of religion, or they occupy their positions for the purpose of inculcating political ideas; education is not their real aim. As far as method goes they follow their own inclinations and ideas. The curriculum is not in harmony with the Government standards.

"IV. For the above reasons necessity presses that the Government should regain its rightful control of Education. Means to this end are as follows:

"1) All schools and educational agencies established by foreigners should report to the Government for registration.

"2) Everything pertaining to the schools should be brought into harmony with National and Provincial regulations before they are permitted to register.

"3) All schools opened by foreigners must come under the control of an inspector appointed by the local Magistrate.

"4) All teachers employed in foreign schools must have the qualifications required by the Ministry of Education.

"5) All foreign schools must collect fees in accordance with the scale set by the Ministry. Such scale of fees must not exceed that of other private schools in the district.

"6) Pupils graduating from an unregistered school shall not be considered on an equality with the graduates of the National schools when seeking Government preferment.

"7) Schools not permitted to register by the Government shall be closed after a certain time, of which due notice shall be given.

"8) Students in the foreign schools shall take care to observe all Festivals, Properties, and Manners determined for the regulation of the National schools.

"9) Foreigners should not use their schools or other educational agencies for the propagation of religion.

"10) All foreign schools and educational agencies shall, within a fixed time, be taken over by the Nation.

"11) After the foregoing has become law in operation, no foreigner shall be permitted to establish agencies in the country."

. . . The Chinese, or at least the more radical ones in the educational ranks, are demanding that religious instruction be abolished entirely in the primary grades as a preliminary and that ultimately it must be abolished in all missionary institutions of learning. Since this would strike at the fundamental purpose or aim of missionary education in China, naturally it may be realized just how far reaching the foregoing action is. . . .

Labor Conditions In Asia

Trade union leaders report on social, political and economic conditions in their countries to the trade union conference of Asian and Australasian countries in Peking.

India

AGAINST a background of "acute and deepening economic crisis" the All India Trade Union Congress (AITUC) is growing in strength and influence, Indian delegate Shankar Shelwankar told members of the trade union conference.

Nearly 1,250,000 industrial workers in India and Pakistan are organized under the banner of the All India Trade Union Congress, he reported, and the number of affiliated unions has more than tripled since prewar years.

But real wages in India have dropped 15 to 20 percent as compared to 1939 as the result of soaring prices, he declared, and Nehru's decision to devalue the rupee "has further reduced the real wage, bringing utter destitution and pauperization to the door of millions of families of our working people."

"Both industrial and agricultural production is going down, but prices and the profits of the capitalists are going up," he added.

"In order to pass the burden of the crisis onto the shoulders of the working class and the people," he continued, "the Indian capitalist class, with the full support of their Nehru Government" has launched a program of retrenchment and wage cuts, coupled with a policy of "fascist repression to drown the resistance of the working class in blood" and disrupt its growing unity.

This has resulted in the whole or partial unemployment of over 2,000,000 industrial workers, he charged, and the imprisonment of over 25,000 democratic leaders and active workers "without even the show of a trial."

India now has a "public security act that enables any police officer to arrest, without warrant, anybody and to detain him or her for 15 days. And persons so detained can be further detained for an indefinite period by the provincial government concerned," Shelwankar said.

In some provinces, trade unions and democratic organizations, as well as the Communist Party, have been banned, he said, but throughout India "both the Communist Party and the AITUC and a number of other democratic and cultural organizations have been reduced to a state of virtual illegality . . . by arrests, baton charges or firing on meetings and demonstrations, by banning strikes, by police raids on all offices, by seizure of literature and documents, by banning the entire progressive democratic press, by driving all the leading cadres underground, and even by open seizure of our offices."

"In the countryside," he added, "wherever our pauperized peasantry has marched forward under the leadership of the working class to take possession of land, Nehru's police state has gone even further—he has established Hitlerite concentration camps where hundreds of our militant peasant fighters have been driven to a slow death and even murdered."

"The Anglo-American imperialists have put Nehru in Chiang Kai-shek's shoes," he said, but the battle cry of the countryside is, "We shall go the Mao Tze-tung way."

Ceylon

"CHINA today, Ceylon tomorrow" is the slogan of the workers and peasants of Ceylon, according to S. A. Wickremasinghe, president of the Ceylon Trade Union Federation.

In his report to the conference, Wickremasinghe described Ceylon, with its 25,000 square miles and 16,500,000 population, as an agricultural country with no industries. "Ninety percent of the entire peasantry are landless or own uneconomic fragments," he said. "Feudal land tenure and share cropping are the chief features."

On the other hand, he pointed out, 75 percent of the total area planted to rubber is made up of large estates concentrated in the hands of companies and rich landlords.

The Ceylon Trade Union Federation (CTUF), Wickremasinghe continued, "is now fighting against most brutal repression." It was established in 1940 after the leadership of the earlier All-Ceylon trade union congress, formed in 1927, had been "bought over by the British employers" and degenerated into "a permanent strike-breaking organization."

The present CTUF, he said, has a membership of 20,000 and maintains close relations with the plantation union of Indian workers which has a membership of about 120,000.

But, he added, "mass importation of immigrant labor has been the main obstacle to trade union organization. Every strike was defeated by employers by importing labor from India."

Following the month-long general strike of government and other workers in Colombo in 1947 for higher wages, trade union rights and unemployment and old age security, he reported, "legislation was passed to take away even the existing trade union rights of government workers."

"The struggle of our working class for democratic and trade union rights, for a better standard of living, and for economic security," he concluded, "is the struggle against the economic set-up of Anglo-American imperialists' resources, the control over our markets and the exploitation of cheap labor."

Burma

BEFORE the war, Burma's "natural wealth, transport facilities, trade and finance were the exclusive monopoly of five British companies," the All-Burma Trade Union Congress representative, Aung Win, told TUC delegates. Now, he said, Britain and America are seeking to reimpose their economic domination of the country through the Thakin Nu government.

Aung Win said the Burmese people own only 30 percent of the land in Burma, an area as large as France and England put together. The balance, he said, is owned by "six thousand landlords, mostly Indian."

Tracing the history of British-Burmese relations, Aung Win said Burma was annexed by Britain as a province of the Indian Empire in the last century. After the Japanese invasion in 1942, "the entire British population fled from the country without organizing the people to defend their country," but guerilla warfare was waged by the peasants and workers.

Immediately after the war, Aung Win continued, the All-Burma Trade Union Congress (ABTUC) and the All-Burma Peasants Union were organized. At the same time, "the representatives of the British monopoly interests returned to Burma in 1945 to resume their activities. The British military authorities on the pretext of poswar rehabilitation transferred the entire control of the rice and timber trade, water and land transport, import and export trade to the former British monopoly interests."

Aung Win charged that the Thakin Nu Government, which he said had been "set up by the military authorities of British imperialists and not by the will of the people," has "forcibly closed down the offices of the ABTUC and imprisoned most of its leaders who were unable to escape into liberated territory."

"The Trade Union Congress (BBB)," he said, "is a police union set up by the reactionary socialists with direct government intervention. It has no support among the working class.

"The British imperialists are in consultation with the American imperialists and other imperialist powers and the dominions of the Commonwealth for large-scale armed intervention in Burma, as free supply of arms and ammunition to the Thakin Nu Government is of no avail. American imperialists are making full use of the situation for economic domination over Burma, so far an exclusive British monopoly."

However, he said the struggle has drawn not only the working class and peasants, but the people of Burma as a whole, into a "powerful united front."

Siam

THE trade union delegate from Siam, Mr. Vas Sundaracharmara, said Siam, although officially considered an independent country, "has been a semi-colony from the middle of the 19th century."

"Siam is rich in natural resources—tin, rubber and valuable timber," he said. "But they are all in the hands of the big American and British monopolists. Before the Second World War the British monopolies used to occupy the leading role in Siam. The military clique of Phibul Songgram, having

seized power in November 1947 with the support of the American monopolies, opened the door to American capital."

The Siamese delegate said that of Siam's 18,000,000 population, the working class is numerically small. "There are about 250,000 to 300,000 workers distributed as follows," he said, "about 50,000 employed in the timber industry, 30,000 in rubber production and 20,000 in tin mining. The labor conditions of the Siamese workers are practically inhuman and there is neither labor legislation nor even the most elementary provisions for labor protection and safety devices."

Vas Sundaracharmara said the trade union movement in Siam started in the form of mutual aid associations during the war.

"In November, 1944, the first trade union association of workers—the Bangkok Federation of Trade Unions—was established," he continued. "The federation was a member of the Anti-Japanese League of Siam, and while working underground, took an active part in the struggle against the Japanese invaders."

After the war, the federation came out into the open and began to revive its activities.

Trade union organization began to spread throughout Siam, and in April 1947 a trade union conference was held to establish the General Federation of Trade Unions of Siam (GFTUS). "The trade union membership has continuously been growing and is now nearly 50,000," Vas Sundaracharmara stated. "In Bangkok alone there are about 30,000 members.

Despite efforts to split the unity of the trade union movement by formation of a "pseudo-trade union organization" Vas Sundaracharmara said, the Siamese trade unions "are going ahead with increased confidence."

North Korea

THE agricultural and industrial progress in North Korea since its liberation was described by Choi Gen Dek, chairman of the Federation of Trade Unions of North Korea.

"The agrarian reform of 1945 gave 720,000 families of land workers, landless and land-poor peasants 1,000,000 hectares of free land," he told the assembled delegates. "In 1948, 55,209 hectares of waste land were brought under cultivation, and the crop amounted to more than 2,800,000 tons, an increase of over 800,000 tons as compared with 1946. In this way, the food problem of the northern half of the Republic, which had not been an agrarian area, was thoroughly solved."

Of Korea's industrialization, Choi Gen Dek reported: "As a result of the nationalization of main industries, 1,034 organs of main industry, transportation, communications and banks have fallen into the hands of the people.

"In the northern half of the Republic we have succeeded twice in carrying out the people's economic plans, and on this basis we drew up a two-year people's economic plan, 1949-50."

In the field of social reforms, he said, North Korea's labor law "provides for an eight hour day for workers and clerks, seven hours for injurious underground work, six hours for juvenile workers, and prohibits child labor. It also provides for compulsory health insurance and paid vacations."

The North Korean delegate said his section of the country now has 5,124 schools with an attendance of 1,908,571, plus one newly founded university and 14 new colleges with a total of 13,222 students. "In addition," he said, "tens of thousands of cadres have been trained from schools especially set up for the purpose."

The North Korean Federation of Trade Unions, he reported, was formed by 13 industrial unions on November 30, 1945 and the trade unions have been working to strengthen labor discipline, ensure strict observance of the labor law, and obtain steady improvement of labor conditions.

To give financial support to trade union activities, he revealed, the government in March 1948 adopted a resolution which requires the factory administrations to pay the trade unions an amount equal to between two and six percent of the workers' wages.

"Today, the greatest obstacle to unity and full independence of the Korean nation," Choi Gen Dek concluded, "is the interference in our home affairs by the American imperialists through their tool, the so-called 'UN Korea Commission,' as well as the Syngman Rhee clique."

South Korea

IN contrast to the report from North Korea, the South Korean delegate, Bak Se Yeng, who is vice-chairman of the South Korean Federation of Trade Unions, told delegates of the mounting unemployment and political repression in his half of the country.

"The number of factories and mills in South Korea, which amounted to over 10,000 in 1943, dropped to 4,500 in March 1947 and their output in 1946 was only 26.4 percent of that in 1939," he said.

"The number of workers in industry, mining and transportation, which amounted to 356,000 in 1946, dropped to 150,000 in 1947, and recently this figure has dropped further. According to the figures published by the puppet government, there are today over 3,000,000 unemployed and semi-employed as compared with 1,100,000 in November 1945."

Bak Se Yeng charged that "more than 100,000 patriots have been massacred for the reason that they wanted unity and freedom. Innocent people have been arrested and shot without any investigation or trial."

"The suppression of the labor movement," he said, "is growing worse. The enemies unconditionally arrest, imprison and massacre even ordinary members of the federation, not to say their leaders."

Despite this, he said, more than 252,000 workers had joined the South Korean Federation of Trade Unions by October, 1948, and the Federation is waging "an unceasing struggle" to bring about the unification of Korea and to improve the living conditions of the working class.

Bak Se Yeng asked delegates to help the workers of South Korea by organizing the people in their own countries to "oppose the aggressive

WFTU Strengthens Ties In Asia

BESIDES hearing reports on the social, political and economic conditions of countries in Asia and the Far East, the trade union conference in Peking focussed its attention on what can be done to aid the struggle for national liberation among so many of the countries present.

Louis Saillant, general secretary of the World Federation of Trade Unions, said the need for this had become increasingly apparent since 1945 when the conference was first proposed.

"Four years of new experience in the Asian countries indicates that the way of social progress will really be opened before the workers only with the struggle for the recognition of national independence, for the right of self determination, and for the respecting of democratic rights—including trade union rights—to be guaranteed to the working population," he said.

Saillant charged that the trade union leaders of Great Britain, the United States and the Netherlands, on the other hand, had tried to "check the development of the democratic and people's movements in Asia and the Far East."

For example, he said, trade union leaders among the "rightist Social Democrats" in Holland "refused to condemn the military and imperialist action of their government" in Indonesia, and British TUC and American CIO leaders "virtually made impossible the publication of our general report on the mission to Japan and Korea" because it contained "indisputable facts about the existence of a new fascism in South Korea" and the "revival of the Japanese capitalist trusts."

When their attempts to split and weaken the working forces in Asia and the Far East failed within the WFTU, he continued, they then tried to "obstruct the convocation of this conference" and "check the influence of the WFTU in Asia and the Far East" by breaking away from the WFTU and creating an Asian Trade Union Federation of their own.

The Asiatic trade union conference in Peking approved Saillant's report, then acted to strengthen the ties between the WFTU and the trade unions in Asia and the Far East by deciding to set up a permanent WFTU liaison bureau for this purpose. It also asked the WFTU to redouble its efforts on behalf of the working peoples of these countries.

action of the US Government in South Korea" and ask for the withdrawal of the UN Commission.

Malaya

THE Malayan people have been subjected to "bloody terror" since June 1948, Lu Cheng, representative of the Pan-Malayan Federation of Trade Unions, told the conference.

Because of the "enormous prestige of the trade union movement" after the war, he said, the British "were compelled to give de facto recognition to the trade unions. The Pan-Malayan Federation of Trade Unions (PMFTU), uniting workers of all nationalities in Malaya, was formed in 1946 with a membership of more than 400,000.

However, "beginning with 1946," he said, "the Labor Government began to send so-called advisers on trade union movement" to Malaya who "exerted every effort to split the trade union movement and organize government trade unions."

When this attempt failed, "the British colonial authorities . . . started an all-out offensive against the working class" and on June 7, 1948 proclaimed the PMFTU illegal. "On June 12," Lu Cheng continued, "the emergency acts came into force and 1,000 of the best representatives of the Malayan working people were arrested and imprisoned on the strength of these acts. Among them were 185 trade union officials."

Under new emergency regulations promulgated last January, Lu Cheng said, the British "have the power to banish the entire permanent Malayan inhabitants from a village or district. Thousands of men, women and children have been made homeless and tens of thousands of Malayan citizens banished from the country."

Iran

AN appeal for assistance in reestablishing the rights of trade unions and release of imprisoned trade union leaders was made by Ali Mahmed Zadeh, representative of the Central Council of the Amalgamated Trade Unions of Iran.

Zadeh charged that the trade union movement has been a victim of Anglo-American efforts to transform Iran into a colony because of its "strategic significance as a bridgehead for attacking the Soviet Union" and because of its oil resources.

"Owing to the treachery of the Iranian rulers," he said, "our people are deprived of elementary democratic rights and liberties."

Zadeh said after the war the Central Council of Amalgamated Trade Unions of Iran had united 70 percent of all the workers in industry and the oil fields and had obtained the eight hour working day, wage increases, regular days off, vacations, and other benefits.

But within the past two or three years, he declared, "15,000 democrats have been assassinated and executed" and at present "more than 10,000 people of Iran are in prison or exile." The trade unions and the People's Party of Iran (TUDEH) have been outlawed, their property confiscated and their leaders arrested.

In place of the legitimate trade unions, Zadeh charged, police trade unions have been organized. "At the point of the bayonet, the gandarmes and police compel the workers to re-

Li Li-san's Report To WFTU Conference

REPORTING on the experiences, lessons and present conditions of the Chinese labor movement, Li Li-san, vice-president of the All-China Federation of Labor, said there were three main reasons for the victory of the Chinese working class.

First, he said, the working class "won the support of the broad masses of the people" by uniting with the peasants, the revolutionary intelligentsia and the national bourgeoisie. It "put forward its revolutionary land program to lead the peasants' agrarian revolution," recognized the revolutionary force of the intelligentsia, and treated the national bourgeoisie as allies, differentiating between this group, "who oppose imperialism, and the comprador bourgeoisie who have capitulated to imperialism."

Second, it followed the teaching of Stalin that "the characteristic and merit of the Chinese revolution is that it is an armed revolution against armed counter-revolution." Over a period of 20 years, Li Li-san said, the guerilla bases "grew into the powerful People's Liberation Army," and in areas where the revolutionary regime was set up military production was developed to support the armed struggle.

In the KMT cities, he said, "legal struggles were combined with secret revolutionary work." Membership in existing legal organizations was used to "organize and educate the working masses, to lead them in the day-to-day minor struggles for the improvement of their living conditions . . . so as to wrest the leadership of these legal organizations and finally . . . to organize movements of a broad mass character." At the same time, those elements who were "exposed and could no longer stay in the cities" were sent to the guerilla areas, thus strengthening "the leadership of the working class in the revolutionary troops" and preserving the revolutionary cadres.

Li Li-san said that for a long time before the correct method of combining open and secret work was found, a mistaken policy was pursued when "we adventurously organized offensives and openly organized workers' strikes and demonstrations, even armed struggle. As a result, the revolutionary organizations and revolutionary forces in the cities suffered severe damage . . . at one time even leading to the destruction of all organizations of the party and revolutionary mass organizations by the enemy.

"I myself have committed serious mistakes on this question and therefore feel deeply about this historical lesson," he said.

The third "and most fundamental reason" for the victory, he continued, was the fact that "the Chinese labor movement has always been under the leadership of the Communist Party of China." Within the party itself, he said, "a struggle was conducted on two fronts against right opportunism and left adventurism. In particular, the dogmatism of mechanically transplanting foreign experiences regardless of the concrete objective conditions was overcome, while the experimentalism which was reluctant to accept the guidance of the revolutionary theory of Marxism-Leninism was rectified. In this way, the party grasped the truth: Marxism is not a dogma but a guide to revolutionary action."

Li Li-san said a study of these experiences "is of great practical significance," particularly to "the workers of the Asiatic countries still under imperialist oppression."

Turning to the present situation of the Chinese labor movement, Li Li-san said at the time of the Sixth All-China Labor Congress in August 1948 there were 2,830,000 trade union members in China, and since that time trade union organization has been developing rapidly with plans underway to organize all the country's industrial workers "in about one year's time."

He said since the Revolution has been characterized not by the uprising of urban workers but by the seizure of cities by the People's Liberation Army, "the primary task of the trade unions is to educate the workers and arouse their class consciousness."

In some cases, however, he pointed out, the workers' demands were "inordinate" and detrimental to the development of production. "Therefore, right from the beginning, we carried out education on the policy of developing production and benefiting both labor and capital among the working masses," he said. But this policy of mutual benefit, he explained, "is fundamentally different" from that "of the social reformists in Western Europe" which has the purpose "of deceiving the workers and maintaining their (bourgeois) rule." In China the policy is adopted for the purpose "of rehabilitating and developing production to consolidate the regime which is led by the working class." The signing of collective agreements between labor and capital in the various trades, he said, is the principal method by which this policy is being realized.

Li Li-san said the All-China Federation of Labor is now studying the question of a national unified wage system and that labor insurance and welfare work are gradually being instituted.

gister in these unions and pay membership dues on the threat of dismissal from work.

"Instead of bread, work, education, health protection and freedom, the British and American imperialists are bringing to the Iranian people cannon, tanks, warplanes, their advisers, imprisonment and death. Our young national industry cannot compete with British and American goods. Factories are being closed, the army of unemployed and paupers is growing daily, disease is spreading and the mortality rate is rising."

On behalf of the CCATUI, he appealed to the WFTU and "all democratic trade unions of the world" to intercede in every possible way to get "a general amnesty for political prisoners and a reversal of the death sentences passed by court martial upon 13 persons," release of "all the leaders of trade unions in jail" and a halt to further arrests.

Mongolia

THE extensive trade union activity in Mongolia since its revolution in 1921 was outlined by Adlibish, chairman of the All-Mongolia Central Council of Trade Unions.

"Our trade union is in full charge of social insurance," he reported. "The trade unions receive from the state great social insurance funds, which are used to subsidize workers during temporary loss of capacity to work, illness, old age, pregnancy, and to provide rest and recreation for workers and employees.

"The eight hour working day, six day working week and annual vacation from three to four weeks with full pay for the workers have been established in our country.

"The system of child labor is prohibited. Since the first day of the victory of our revolution we have applied the principle of equal payment for equal work for men and women workers. . . As a result of the constant increase of pay and reduction of prices of articles of common use, the real wages of the workers are going up.

"Expenditure for social insurance in 1949 has increased by 1.8 times as compared with 1940. The workers and employees are entitled to medical help, rest homes and sanatoriums free of charge.

"The workers get a flat, heating, light and water supply from the factory or office where they work. Furthermore, the enterprises have restaurants, shops, books, bath houses, hairdressers, kindergartens and cultural institutions for the benefit of the workers.

"As a result of the successful application of labor security and of sanitation improvements, the number of accidents in the factories for the last seven years has been cut by half. . .

"The children of all workers have plenty of opportunities for receiving free primary, technical and university education. In technical and high schools, the students are granted state stipends.

"The trade union carries on educational work among the workers of different nationalities in their own languages, such as Chinese, and Kazakh.

"All the trade union organizations are formed on the basis of democratic centralism. Their governing bodies are democratically elected from bottom to top by the trade union members and are responsible to them for their actions."

The trade unions now, he added, are arranging collective contracts between the factories and trade union committees to push production still higher and further improve the workers' position.

Indonesia

ALI Mardjono, representative of the Indonesian trade union movement, told delegates that the Indonesian workers, despite the actions of Hatta and Sukarno, "who have sold our freedom to the Dutch and American imperialists," are continuing the struggle for liberation.

Mardjono said Indonesia has been subjected to foreign exploitation for more than 300 years. "Indonesia has become a source of raw materials a source of cheap labor, a field of foreign capital investment, and a market for foreign produced commodities," he said.

"The peasants, forming around 75 percent of the total population, are living with an average land as small as 0.19 hectare and in many cases without any land at all. In the towns, working masses are earning starvation wages of two to five cents a day."

After the defeat of Japan, he continued, the Indonesian people were forced to fight against the colonial powers. Hand in hand with this went the strengthening of the trade union movement. "The workers who rose up in arms against the more powerful and better equipped British and Dutch troops not only fought to defend their freedom but also organized powerful trade unions in every industry and enterprise during the latter part of 1945 and early 1946," he said.

"For the first time in the history of the Indonesian trade union movement all trade unions were united in one central organization of all Indonesian trade unions, the SOBSI (Central Organization of Indonesian Trade Unions). Founded on November 29, 1946, it united 28 trade unions with a total membership of 1,200,000, of which 1,000,000 plantation workers are affiliated."

However, he declared, the development of American foreign policy and particularly the Marshall Plan made it possible for the Dutch to launch further military aggression against Indonesia. On December 22, 1947 the United States gave Holland US$547,000,000 through the Marshall Plan. Although American diplomats "blamed" the Dutch for the military attack that followed this grant, he said, "they are one in their attempts to crush the liberation movement."

The present agreement negotiated between the Hatta clique and the Dutch, which requires Indonesia "to pay the debt of the Dutch colonial government in Indonesia to the amount of 4,300,000,000 guilders," he said, "means that the Indonesian working masses shall have to pay for the bullets which kill them in thousands."

Marjdono appealed for continued efforts to help the Indonesian people and asked the conference to condemn the refusal of the Indonesian government to allow SOBSI delegates to attend the Peking conference.

Vietnam

LUU Duc Pho, secretary of the Executive Committee of the General Confederation of Vietnam Workers, declared that the emancipation of the Vietnamese working class cannot be separated from Vietnam's struggle for independence and democracy.

Recounting how Vietnam has been struggling for liberation since the end of the 19th century when it fell under French colonization, he said the liberation movement "started out with vigor with the coming to power of the popular front in France," but "the outbreak of the Second World War gave the colonialists a new occasion for unleashing repressions against the workers' movement" and "all the advantages and liberties won during the popular front period were lost."

After the war, Luu Duc Pho said, "the British imperialists, in the name of the Allies, landed their troops in the south of Vietnam to disarm the Japanese. Thanks to their benevolent complicity, the French colonialists came back to our country and immediately started their war of reconquest."

But after four years of war, he declared, the French have succeeded in occupying only "a number of towns. Nearly the whole countryside, that is about 90 percent of the territory, remains under the control of the Ho Chi-minh Government."

The General Confederation of Vietnam Workers (TLD), he said, was organized in May, 1946 and by the end of 1948 had 255,000 members, 20 percent of whom were factory workers. However, because of continuing French aggression the TLD has "had to concentrate all its efforts on military struggle against the enemy."

This consists not only of mobilizing workers to join the army, he said, but also of maintaining production in the rear by moving machinery to security zones and establishing factories there."

"Despite great difficulties in all the factories," he said, "production is increasing regularly. In 1948 it had increased by 60 percent over the previous year."

Since 1948, the TLD has sent representatives out of the country "in order to ensure its relations with the WFTU and the other national centers," Luu Duc Pho reported.

He urged the conference to condemn the "colonial wars waged against the peoples of Indonesia, Malaya and Vietnam" and to expose the "demagogy" of bourgeois leaders in those countries "who, once their class desires were realized, betrayed the cause of the people and became the loyal servants of the imperialists."

The Women's Movement in China

Through conferences and local organization the women of China are uniting to work for the country's reconstruction and advance their own status.

LAST March the first All-China Women's Congress met in Peking to establish an All-China Democratic Women's Federation. This month that Federation is host to an Asiatic Women's Congress in China's capital city.

These are the national developments in the women's movement in China. Of equal importance but not so well publicized is the slowly growing organization of women in the various cities and country districts.

In Shanghai in October more than 1,000 women held a five-day Women's Delegates' Conference to establish a Shanghai Federation of Democratic Women. The purpose of the conference was to organize the 2,000,000 women in Shanghai into a group that can work together to raise the status of women and participate in the reconstruction of the country.

As the *Ta Kung Pao* pointed out in an editorial commenting on the conference, the one is dependent on the other. Although the equality of men and women in "all aspects of political, economic, cultural, educational and social life" was specifically set forth in the Common Program adopted by the People's Political Consultative Conference in Peking, the paper observed, this is something that can be achieved only by carrying out China's reconstruction under the principles of the new democracy.

"For women to attain true liberation," the editorial declared, "it is necessary for them . . . to shift their energy from unproductive household work to political activities and the work of national reconstruction. Therefore, in order to liberate women it is first necessary to lessen their home drudgery by the establishment of public mess halls, creches, kindergartens and various other institutions which will help in improving women's life."

The Shanghai Women's Conference formulated definite plans to work toward this goal. Among the activities the newly-formed women's federation is to engage in are the following:

● Establishment of nurseries in the factories. Some 50 factories now have nurseries, 24 of them under the direction of the women's federation. It is hoped to have another 24 by the end of this year. Most of the present nurseries are for mothers with nursing babies. The plan is to extend factory nursery care to two-and three-year-old children as well, so that these children will be looked after properly while their mothers are working. The federation is also working on a set of standards to be applied to the many private nurseries that have sprung up in Shanghai since liberation.

● Health work of women in factories. Health programs are to be instituted experimentally in a few chosen factories where a program can be worked out that can be applied to factories generally.

● Education for women workers. Although in many of Shanghai's light industries such as the cotton mills and silk filature and tobacco factories women workers outnumber men, they do not play a proportionate role in the labor unions or other aspects of factory affairs. Partly this is a hangover from pre-liberation conditions, partly because women have had additional home burdens. Now, in response to their request for knowledge about trade unions and training in union leadership, the federation is initiating classes to train women to take responsibility in union affairs.

● Organization of home women. Almost 4,000 housewives have become members of the united league of family women since liberation. The federation hopes to boost this number to 20,000 by the end of December through the development of "street and lane" organizations. Housewives are forming discussion groups, sewing classes, joining consumer cooperatives, and organizing nurseries both to increase their own productivity and assist working women.

● Organization of rural women. Some 20 representatives of women in the rural districts surrounding Shanghai came to the conference to ask for help in organizing educational classes and forming cooperatives. The federation is to work with them on these projects.

● Organizing consumer cooperatives. The federation is working closely with the municipal cooperative organization to train women in cooperative management and facilitate the establishment of cooperatives. It is hoped that eventually each lane can have its own small consumer cooperative to enable women to buy daily necessities for their families at the lowest possible price.

International Women's Day at Bangkok—Chen Wang

The federation is also publishing a magazine called *Modern Women*, the first issue of which is to appear this month.

It will be noted how many of these activities center about the women workers of Shanghai. This is in line with a resolution passed by the conference that the women's movement must unite all classes of women in Shanghai into a broad, democratic united front with women workers as the nucleus. Seventy-five percent of women workers in China's light industry are concentrated in Shanghai, and workers' representatives formed the largest single group at the conference.

The conference ended after a constitution had been drafted and a work program adopted for women's activities in Shanghai. The closing statement expressed gratification over the achievements of the meeting, but added: "However, this conference only marks the start of our work and with the convocation of this conference we have completed only the first step of a long march of 10,000 li."

One of the next steps will be to prepare for an even wider representatives' meeting of all groups of women in Shanghai.

The women who attended the conference were urged to carry the resolutions back to their co-workers in Shanghai's factories, homes, schools and offices. This work is now proceeding. Soon after the meeting ended, the Women Workers' Department of the Shanghai General Labor Union called a meeting to plan ways and means of carrying on the work in their respective factories. A group of Buddhist nuns representing all Buddhist temples in the city gathered at the Bubbling Well Temple to hear a report on the conference from two of their representatives who had attended it. As a result, the nuns are organizing themselves for the first time and are forming a nuns' department of the Shanghai Buddhists Association. This group will maintain contact with the Shanghai Federation of Democratic Women.

What is happening in Shanghai is being duplicated in many other parts of the country. A similar conference of women's representatives was held recently in Hangchow and a Chekiang Provincial Federation of Democratic Women was formally inaugurated. A conference of women in Tientsin early in November passed a constitution for a Tientsin Democratic Women's Union and resolved that women there should set up nurseries, promote women's and children's hygiene, organize women for production and strengthen the cultural and educational work of women of all strata. The mayor of Tientsin promised the conference that it would receive every cooperation from the Tientsin People's Government.

Thus are the women of the newly liberated areas following the example of those in other sections of the country to unite in the building of the New China and the advancement of their own status.

The story of a woman in the old China:

SHE

by Yeh Sheng-tao

Translated by Hu Ching-hsien.

SHE was born into a peasant family. She had never been waited upon by a troupe of amahs, nor had she ever had the leisure to dabble with powder and rouge. She was untutored as to the "three obediences and four virtues" which Confucius deemed to be the necessary qualities of womanhood and she had never heard of the modern teachings of "freedom" and "equality." She just grew up, ignorant and unenlightened, like a simple farm animal.

When she was old enough to talk and walk, she helped her parents in light tasks. She could pick up bits of hay for the stove, or dig up the few edible plants that grew wild on the hill slopes. When she was 15, her parents married her off. They figured that sooner or later she would become a member of another family, and the longer she stayed at home, the more money would be wasted on her food and clothing. It happened that her husband's family had more work than they could handle and was about to be compelled to hire extra help. Now that she was married into the family, she was at least as useful as half an ox, if not quite as helpful as a hired hand.

* * *

LESS than a year after she was married, she gave birth to a son. The whole thing was like a dream to her. She only knew that just yesterday she herself lay cuddled in her mother's arms and now she was cuddling a baby of her own. It had no cradle, it did not have soft and warm clothes, it breathed no fresh air, and it saw no sunlight. It could not even sleep in her arms until it was night. All day long, it slept, cried and fell asleep again in a dark corner of the room. It died before it was six months old and she cried as if her heart were broken.

Her mother-in-law claimed that she didn't know how to care for a baby, and in bringing on the death of the fine, husky grandson, she had committed an unpardonable crime. Her father-in-law said that her horoscope was so ill-starred that she could not withstand the good fortune of having a son, and she was responsible for depriving him of a male descendant. Her husband had nothing to say. If only he could win each time he threw the dice, it would not matter even if ten sons had died. She did not pause and think over the meaning of these words. She only kept on weeping.

* * *

BUT one day she encountered something out of the ordinary. She opened her chest and found that her blue cotton jackets which her mother had given her when she married, had disappeared. The mystery was solved when her husband babbled in his drunkenness, and told her that he had pawned them. All too quickly, winter arrived, and the icy wind cut through her flesh and chilled the very marrow of her bones. Driven by the cold, she gathered enough courage to go and beg her husband to redeem her cotton jackets; but he only slapped her face. She was used to being slapped by her husband and, as usual, she could only weep. But her mother-in-law was annoyed and shouted fiercely:

"You cry! Do you want to cry all of us into our graves!"

However, the sharp words did not stop her crying and she sobbed all the more piteously. Her mother-in-law was enraged, and, snatching up a wooden club, beat her. Her husband aided his mother by giving his wife a few more slaps.

Even she found it too much to bear. She thought of tomorrow, of the day after tomorrow, and of the countless tomorrows that would make up her future, and she shuddered with fear.

* * *

EARLY next morning, when the day had scarcely dawned, she tiptoed out of her home. Luck was with her, as her husband slept on soundly. The northerly wind was as sharp as a knife, but it did not hurt as much as her husband's slaps. Without stopping for breath, she walked straight on for more than three miles, till she came to a little river. There she sat down on its bank to wait for the boat that carried people to the town.

After a long time, the boat came and she boarded it. All the other passengers seemed to possess the mysterious faculty of reading her mind. The minute they set eyes on her, they knew that she had had a family quarrel, and was running away from her home. They advised her:

"You must have been wrong, otherwise they would not have punished you. Besides, even if they were wrong, you are only such a young woman that you should try to put up with your elders. If you do not learn to control your wild temper, you will only invite more hardships in the future. I advise you to return home by the same boat."

She only bowed her head even lower and said not a word, and her silence irritated them. And one said:

"How can we know what she has in her mind? Perhaps a man is waiting for her in the city!"

This remark brought forth a peal of hearty laughter from all the passengers. Still she paid no attention to them.

When she arrived in the city, she went to a servants' hiring agency, which sent her to a family. Thus, she turned a new page in her life. She still had to work from dawn to night, but the work was lighter and there was nobody to scold and beat her. She found her new life exceedingly comfortable, and she hoped that she could live like that forever. She had only one sorrow. When she woke up in the middle of the night, she would think of her dead child and cry brokenheartedly.

* * *

ONE day she was told to go to the street to buy something, and there she ran into somebody. Instantly, a stone weighed heavily on her heart. He was from her village. Within three days, her father-in-law came all the way from the village to find her in the city, and the minute he saw her, he shouted:

"So, you've run away! Now that I've found you, see if you can run away again. If you know what's good for you, you'd better follow me home."

The Market Of Human Flesh—Yang Hsi

She was so scared that she could not even open her mouth. She could only run to the inner court and hide herself behind her mistress. Her mistress summoned the father-in-law to appear before her and said:

"Your daughter-in-law is working for me, and before the contract period is over, how can she go home with you?"

Her father-in-law was dumbfounded. He could only stare angrily at his daughter-in-law and cry fiercely:

"Come home as soon as you finish the contract. I warn you, if you run away again, we will wash our hands of you. Wherever you go, I'll sell you right where I find you, or I'll break your shins!"

From then on, she was sad and full of fears. She felt certain that her happy new life would vanish like the winter fog melting away before the rising sun. She thought of her future and was frightened. Her eyes were swollen with crying. She had no appetite and she could not do her work.

A few days later, her father came, because he had been told by her father-in-law to bring her home. The mistress asked the man:

"Can you think of any way to save your daughter?" and he replied:

"Since she is the daughter-in-law of another family, they can scold her or beat her if they wish, and I have nothing to say." She again hid behind her mistress and would not go home with her father.

* * *

SOME months passed in peace, and then one day, her parents-in-law asked a neighbor to bring a message saying that her husband was ill and she must go home and nurse him. She trembled at the very thought and again clung to her mistress.

Four days after that happened, her father came and said to her:

"Your husband has died. If you don't go home now, I'll be in great trouble." Even her mistress said:

"This time you must go, or else your family can come here and wreck my place!"

She shook with fear at the very thought of going home, but no one was on her side, not even her mistress, and she knew that this time she must go home.

When she saw her husband lying cold and stiff on the bed she felt sad until she remembered that he had given her nothing but slaps and kicks. Her parents-in-law did not tell her to weep for him, nor did they tell her to wear mourning. Instead, they led her to another family and sold her for two thousand cash. Her father-in-law, her mother-in-law and even her own father thought this a most proper thing to do. They had always sold things which they no longer needed. When there was no field to plough, it was natural to sell the ox. And like an ox, she ought to be sold now that she was no longer of any use. To pay for her husband's burial with the money obtained from her sale was the last service she could render him.

The American Scene

FOR quite some time developments in the United States have given many Americans cause for serious thought. Both materially and morally the changes have been great and swift. In particular it is those developments or trends which threaten to undermine the basic freedoms of the people, as guaranteed in the Declaration of Independence and in the Constitution, and which threaten the foundations of the country's most important institutions that give greatest cause for alarm.

Ever since the American Revolution citizens of the United States have valued their individual freedom and their personal liberties. There was a time when the United States was undoubtedly the "freest" place on earth a man could live. However, for the past several years these freedoms have been under attack, with the result that today it is not nearly so "free" as in the past.

There are individuals and groups in America who are opposed to the continuance of the traditional freedoms. They wish to qualify the word freedom, reserving complete freedom of action for themselves but denying even the vestiges of such freedom to the broad mass of the population.

Result of Economic Problems

One may ask why and how such a situation arises. Generally speaking, it is a result of economic problems. So long as the American economy continued to expand, sailing along on an even keel with everything getting bigger and better year after year, everybody was relatively happy.

However, when the road becomes bumpy and signs of depression are in the air, people become uneasy and tend to begin restricting their purchases, saving their money for a rainy day. The owners of factories find it increasingly difficult to dispose of their finished products. This results in a curtailment of production, which causes unemployment. The more unemployed there are, the less customers there are and the vicious circle has begun.

While it is only during depression or "recession" times that the country's economic problems and the resulting social strains are highlighted, they are in fact present all the time. This is partially due to the continually changing nature of the country's economic organization. Modern developments in manufacturing techniques and economic organization have made fundamental changes in the life of the country. It is only natural that with such developments there should also come changes in social organization.

That these changes are resisted by many people can be seen from the appeals periodically made for a return to the good old ways of our fathers and grandfathers. The preachers, the small town philosophers and others who regularly lament the "breakup" of the family, the drift away from the farm and village to the city, are swimming against the current. You can't have modern factories employing thousands of time clock-punching laborers and still retain the personal type of social organization that went with the horse and buggy.

With these changes come dislocations. History has shown this to be true through the ages. The record of the struggles and conflicts attending the rise of the factory system in England, for instance, is preserved for us by a number of writers. The more recent destruction of German democracy is also recorded.

What is the nature of the change taking place in America today? How is it happening and what are the prospects for the future? And how best can we combat the trend toward destruction of our freedom and our traditional institutions which seem to be accompanying the changes in our material life? These are questions which each American must answer for himself. There are a number of organizations, associations, and even political parties which are seeking the answers and solutions to these problems. Each American must decide, if not now, then in the very near future, whether he will "sit this one out" and thus aid those who would abridge the nation's traditional freedoms, or whether he will work with one or more of the groups trying to preserve the best of the American tradition.

America is changing and it is of great importance to all people—both Americans and others—to be aware of what is happening.

* * *

IT is a historical fact that in past periods of depression the American social system has been strained to the utmost. It is no secret that if the last depression—the most severe upon record—had not ended when it did there would have been serious trouble from unemployed, hungry workers in many parts of the country. Actually, city-wide riots were narrowly averted in some of the larger industrial centers such as Detroit.

Roosevelt pulled the country out of that depression by wholesale spending of public monies, by currency inflation. However, the slump was not really ended until the European armament program got under way in 1938 when large orders were placed with American manufacturers. In the period 1938-41 the Allies pumped a vast amount of money into the American economy.

America's preparation for, and final participation in the war brought the country its biggest boom. However,

with the post-war prosperity, built largely upon the war-time savings of the people, coming to an end, and with the American Government unable or unwilling to search for a rational solution, the prospect of depression has once again appeared.

Mounting unemployment, decline in retail sales, smaller overall volume of business, all point unmistakably to an economic decline. So far Washington's idea of how to head off this decline before it turns into a full scale depression appears to be to engage in foreign spending ventures instead of trying to inaugurate drastic curative measures at home. The Marshall Plan for Europe, ECA funds for certain countries in Asia, plans for developing the world's "backward" areas, arms for European allies, plus huge military expenditures at home are the methods being used to prime the country's economic pump.

However, despite the billions thus expended—much of which is being poured down ratholes not greatly different from the one formerly operated in China by the National Government of Chiang Kai-shek—the prospect of depression refuses to be dismissed. Unemployment continues to grow, business continues to decline.

Developments Alarm Many

There are a number of people in America who view these developments with extreme alarm. Some are Republicans, some are Democrats, some are followers of Henry Wallace's Progressive Party, some are old Roosevelt New Dealers, some are Communists, and many are just individuals who believe that the program of the present administration can lead only to disaster. Most of these people claim that the time has come to alter the "system." It is the system, they say, rather than the unreasonableness of the Russians, the intransigence of labor unions, or the stupidity of Europeans who are unable to run their own affairs, that is responsible for the continuing economic decline.

The extent and nature of the changes they desire to make in America's social organization depend upon the particular political outlook of the different groups or individuals. New Dealers want a return to Roosevelt's policies, some of the dissatisfied Republicans believe that a simple turning back of the clock will suffice, while the Communists desire to work toward socialism.

The recent election campaign between Republican John Foster Dulles and Democrat Herbert Lehman (the latter won) for a vacant seat in the US Senate illustrates this point. Lehman campaigned on the issue of President Truman's "Fair Deal" platform (so far a paper plan) which is more or less a replica of the Roosevelt New Deal program. Dulles, a very conservative lawyer, was against the Fair Deal, charging that such a program would lead to a "welfare state."

Lehman's idea is that the social organization must be reformed to fit in with the changing times by moving to the left, if only slightly, while Dulles feels that the country is already too far to the left, that the solution lies with a return to the social ideas in general favor one or more generations ago. He wants less government regulation, more "freedom" for private businessmen and others to do as they please.

The more progressive among those desiring a move to the left say that the worker must be paid more money for his work, must be better looked after by the state. Only by improving the condition of the worker, they claim, will he have enough money left after paying his food and rent bills to buy the washing machines, radios and the host of other products which American manufacturers today are finding it difficult to sell. To support such a claim, they cite the fact that last year was a record year of corporation profits in America, and that the yearly withholding of huge sums in the form of liquid assets which cannot find outlets tends to dry up the country's economy.

Although profits have gone up in the last few years—sometimes by as much as 50 to 100 percent a year—it is a common complaint from both stockholders and workers that neither dividends nor wages have kept pace. Instead of paying out some of these profits, many companies, particularly the larger corporations, have established huge reserve funds. It is today not uncommon to find a large corporation maintaining several separate reserve funds. One for emergencies, one for "special" emergencies, one for expansion or other investment opportunities and so on.

Naturally these funds are not kept in the office safe. Every effort is made to discover places where they can be invested profitably. However, such places are becoming increasingly difficult to find, since, with the country already experiencing a business recession, fewer and fewer new enterprises are being started.

Actually, it is charged, the very withholding of these huge sums tends to dry up investment opportunities. If these monies were paid as extra wages or dividends, they would increase the purchasing power of the public and thus create a demand for more goods and services.

Critics of government policy say that the present system of pump priming by the expenditure of enormous sums abroad, while ignoring needed internal economic reforms, has already proved bankrupt. Additionally, it is charged, the creation of a huge war machine is both foolish and dangerous.

Naturally the generals and the admirals are opposed to those who disapprove of the maintenance of a colossal military establishment. Naturally the manufacturer is opposed to those who want the government to restrict his profits and regulate his business so that a new method of avoiding depressions can be tried out.

* * *

AMONG these groups there are some who are willing to suppress their critics by illegal means and who, in order to resist any attempt to alter the path now being followed, are quite prepared to resort to violence if and when other methods prove ineffective.

These are the people desirous of qualifying the word freedom. They identify—sometimes unconsciously—their own vested interests with the interests of the country. They claim that those who want to interfere with the way the country is now being run are opponents of freedom and thus must be suppressed in the interests of freedom. The factory owner who calls for the police, or who hires private detectives or hoodlums to break the picket lines set up by his striking workers claims that he is doing so in the interest of freedom. The strikers, he says, are trying to interfere with his freedom of operation. He ignores the strikers' claim that low wages interfere with their freedom to live in a decent manner.

An example of this type of reasoning was Senator Robert Taft's recent statement on the US coal strike. Taft called on Truman to force the miners back to work because the strike threatened the nation's health. Many people were unable to get coal to heat their homes, he said. It apparently never occurred to Taft to suggest that Truman order the mine owners to raise the miner's wages so that the latter would go back to work.

Thugs Break Up Meeting

An instance in which a traditional freedom has actually been denied to a group of Americans—not just suggested as in the case of Taft and the coal strike—occurred in San Francisco last month when a gang of ruffians broke up a meeting of 400 members of the Chinese Workers Mutual Aid Association called to celebrate the victories of the PLA in South China. The thugs, numbering about 40, charged into the meeting hall just as the main speaker was about to begin and fell to beating the audience with lead pipes, and throwing eggs and bottles of blue dye about the room.

Here was a case in which a minority of 40 men prevented a majority of 400 men and women from conducting a peaceful meeting. What was the excuse for this denial of the traditional American right of freedom of assembly? The excuse, according to the attackers, was that the 400 attending the meeting were "subversives." It is difficult to understand how a peaceful, previously announced and public gathering convened for the purpose of listening to speeches about events taking place in another country can be described as "subversive."

Another recent example of how certain organized minority groups in America are prepared to use force to prevent individuals or groups from carrying out the expressed will of the majority took place when a concert in a New York town was broken up by stick-wielding thugs. Paul Robeson, famous American Negro singer whose progressive views on racial and political matters are well known, was scheduled to sing. He barely escaped injury at the hands of the gang which threw the concert audience into confusion.

Some days later, Robeson, guarded by a picked group of men, returned to the town and gave his concert. The latest press dispatches from New York say that Governor Dewey has ordered a grand jury to investigate this incident. One of the tasks laid before the jury is to determine whether or not Robeson's guard, which prevented the hoodlums from breaking up the concert and attacking him at the second appearance, constitute "an illegal private

militia." Governor Dewey, it would appear, is more interested in protecting the freedom of the hoodlums to attack Robeson than he is in protecting Robeson's freedom to guard himself against injury at the hands of an illegally organized minority.

Worse On Labor Front

It is on the labor front, however, that such instances of illegal violence are most common. Perhaps this is because the native fascists realize that if they are to have their way, they must first strike, and strike hard, at their largest and potentially most strong opponent—organized labor.

In Tallapoosa, Georgia, Mrs. Edna Martin, a volunteer organizer of the Textile Workers of America (a CIO union) was kidnapped, driven out of town, bound and gagged by four men and five women, and warned not to come back "or you'll be shot on sight."

In Tacoma, Washington, a gang of anti-union thugs administered what was described as a savage beating to a group of union pickets parading in front of a strike-bound shipping company. The thugs used baseball bats, blackjacks, brass knuckles and guns. The pickets called the Tacoma police but the latter failed to answer the call for 45 minutes, by which time the hired gang had broken up the picket line and disappeared.

In East St. Louis, Illinois, where workers of the American Zinc Company have been on strike for 11 months, a gang of strike breakers openly employed by the company have been attempting to intimidate the strikers for several months. Shootings, bombings and beatings have occurred frequently. On one day, May 26, three separate attempts were made upon the lives of two union officials.

A few days later, these same company thugs broke up a parade of 300 strikers by firing point blank into the ranks of the strikers. Two strikers were seriously wounded. The local police, who up until this point had ignored the matter, were at last forced to take action. Ten of the gunmen were charged with responsibility for the shooting and jailed. However, within a matter of hours they had been bailed out by their employers.

And so it goes, from one end of the United States to the other. As the recession deepens and as more and more workers find it difficult to keep their jobs or to maintain their living even if they manage to stay employed, management resorts to violence in its efforts to beat the workers back into line.

Naturally, this is not true throughout all American industry, but it is happening in a growing number of cases. It is particularly significant to note that in such cases, the unions, or other victimized groups, find it nearly impossible to get protection from the police, who inevitably appear late on the scene after the hoodlums have departed.

Victims Cannot Obtain Redress

Nor do the victims achieve any more success in attempting to obtain redress by legal means since the hired thugs are almost always bailed out of jail by their bosses. Rarely, in the case of labor-management conflicts, do the local law enforcement officers refuse the company's request for bail. However, it is not infrequent to find union members, especially if they are Negroes, languishing in jail on minor charges for one, two, or several days before the authorities permit the unions to bail them out.

Now it only stands to reason that if the San Francisco meeting, the Robeson concert, the activities of the CIO woman organizer, the actions of the Tacoma pickets or the parade of the East St. Louis strikers had been illegal, the regular law enforcement agencies would have dealt with them. It is also logical to assume that if the things they were doing were opposed by the majority of the people, no one would have paid any attention to them. The mere fact that in each case illegal armed violence of a sort was employed to prevent these people from doing what the American Constitution says they have a right to do indicates that there are minority groups in America determined to have their own way, even if it is necessary to abandon the much talked about freedoms.

* * *

THIS method of operation becomes more understandable when one realizes that those wishing to keep freedom for themselves while denying it to others simply cannot stand up and denounce the idea of freedom. Such a course of action would expose them to public ridicule and to legal prosecution. Rather they depend upon public lethargy and upon the fact that a large portion of the people all too often can be confused to a point of inaction by half-truths, by appeals to native prejudices.

As economic conditions deteriorate and as many articulate people in America cry out against what they consider to be ill-considered internal and external policies, those who favor such policies, or who would resist any turn toward a more liberal approach to the nation's problems, are doing their utmost to prevent the progressive leaders from gaining the ears of the public.

There are many ways of doing this. So far only examples of violence—the final course of action when all other methods fail—have been reviewed. However, some of the other ways in which these minority groups attempt to gain their ends are equally if not more important. Too much violence will bring popular revulsion, so in order to make violence, as the *coup de grace*, pay off, the public must be conditioned beforehand.

The first method is to deride those objecting to present policies and trends. The usual strategy is to call them "reds," to claim that they are anti-American, that they are subversive, that they wish to take advantage of America's traditional freedoms in order ultimately to destroy these freedoms.

If the objectors are members of a minority racial or religious group, the public's native prejudices are certain to be played upon. The objectors are termed "Negroes," or "Jews" or "foreigners" who do not, it is charged, appreciate America's fine traditions and who ought to be kicked out of the country.

If the public has been fed, through the press and radio, through the schools, churches and other institutions enough propaganda about how those being victimized are really disrupters of the American way of life, it is possible that little effective popular indignation will be aroused when the final method—violence—is employed.

Military Infiltrate Government

Indications of how America's traditional institutions are being transformed by these native fascists, often in league with the government itself, are many. One of the most fundamental changes, of which the public is not generally informed, has been the slow but steady infiltration of government departments by the huge military clique raised up by the people to fight the last war.

Many people have been calling attention to the danger which the military machine constitutes. History has shown, it is pointed out, that when a nation devotes too great a portion of its efforts for military purposes in time of peace it starts down the road toward a military state. You have to train a whole crew of generals and admirals, in short a military clique, to run the military machine. Naturally, such a clique develops a vested interest in keeping itself going. It has to continue to provide a reason for its existence. If peace seems likely, there is no excuse for armaments and, consequently, no need for maintaining the generals and admirals on the public payroll.

The generals and admirals, so long as an excuse—a threat—is believed to exist, play a dominant role in the nation's life. More and more the everyday doings of the citizenry are fitted around military plans. Production of consumer goods is delayed or abandoned in favor of bigger and newer weapons. More and more the thinking of the people is conditioned by the predominance of the military in public life. More and more the military way—by command—instead of the democratic way—by a majority decision arrived at after exhaustive debate—is favored for running the country.

In March 1948 Representative George Bender, Republican congressman from Ohio, declared on the floor of the US House of Representatives that a "sinister conspiracy exists to draw us into open warfare on the side of every reactionary and fascist element and in every civil war everywhere in the world. . . . I charge . . . that a conspiracy exists in our State Department to organize World War III, and to establish a system of military alliances in direct contradiction to the entire American foreign policy."

What Congressman Bender was specifically objecting to was the recruitment of some 50 (up to that time) former high-ranking Army and Navy officers as key, controlling personnel in the State Department. This was partially due to General Marshall's desire to "streamline"

the department, to make it more efficient, like his army, so that when he issued an order it would be implemented quickly through a chain-of-command-like organization.

At about the same time a booklet was issued, sponsored by 25 national leaders, including Ray Lyman Wilbur, Secretary of the Interior when Hoover was president; the Reverend William J. Miller, president of the Catholic University of Detroit; and Albert Einstein, which warned: "An important safeguard of American democracy, civilian control of government, is rapidly disappearing. Not only are the military men moving into key positions in the State Department and other agencies, but the Army and Navy are extending their influence into science, education and industry." Hanson Baldwin, the well-known military writer, in an article in *Harpers* stated: "I say that the growing influence of the military man in American life is dangerous to our democratic liberties."

Army Influences The Press

How does the military influence the public? The *Madison* (Wisconsin) *Capital Times* on February 15, 1948, editorialized: "The Army is the third biggest advertiser in the nation. Therefore, the newspapers deal gently with the Army because it spends millions of the taxpayers' money on advertising. It has just leaked out that the Army is spending US$6,000 a week to sponsor a radio program heard in the morning when most men are at work. When asked about this, Army authorities replied they wanted to convince the women in order that the women would convince the men."

As a further example of the Army's growing voice in civilian affairs, the paper charged that the alliance between big business monopoly and militarism represented a type of "budding fascism," but that while the country "is being fed almost daily a new and fresh scare on the dangers of communism," the "new form of fascism that is enveloping the country gets a minimum of attention." This, the paper asserted, "is in itself a demonstration of the power now being wielded by the big business-military crowd in controlling the agencies that have a large part in making American public opinion—the press, the movies, the radio, the schools and the church."

The changes that have been taking place in the nation's schools, which will undoubtedly result in altered attitudes among the new generation of students, were pointed out during a three-day conference of 800 of America's leading college presidents, academic deans, department heads and professors in New York from January 10 to 12. At this meeting, Dr. Kenneth I. Brown, president of Denison University, and president of the Association of American Colleges, the organization which called the meeting, focussed attention on one of the most significant and underplayed stories in the nation—the trend of most educational institutions away from their original educational purposes into commercial ventures.

Faced with the problem of raising an estimated US$3,500,000,000 this year, part of it actually needed to meet rising costs, but part also wanted just to "keep up with the Joneses," the colleges and universities, traditionally trustee-ridden, have been forced to make greater concessions to conservative and reactionary influences in order to raise the money, he charged. They have also gone into commercial business ventures on an unprecedentedly large scale, making their identification with the big business point of view even more pronounced.

Among the more open concessions have been the firing of professors who were too outspoken politically and the denial of merited promotion to others, the censoring and banning of textbooks and magazines, the curbing of campus activity by students and faculty alike, and the repression of free and full inquiry and discussion.

How have these developments affected life in America? They have brought changes, some of which although small, will certainly result in a drastic alteration of life and attitudes toward life in the United States.

The attitude of the American people already has been so changed during the past few years, as a result of the anti-communist hysteria whipped up by the organized minorities, that a significant move by the US Army in which it put its stamp of approval on fascism went almost unnoticed by the American press and public.

Last March it was revealed that the Army no longer considers fascist organizations "subversive," and has ordered that 40 fascist and extreme right-wing organizations on the Justice Department's subversive list be dropped from the questionnaire submitted to men entering the army.

The disclosure that groups such as the Ku Klux Klan, the Silver Shirts, the Columbians and others are no longer considered subversive, that all "leftist" groups on the Attorney General's list remain intact, was first made by *Overseas News Agency* in a report from Washington on March 2, 1949.

In San Francisco, artist Anton Refregier, completing a 29-panel mural of California history in the city's Rincon Postoffice Annex, included a portrait of Franklin D. Roosevelt in his final panel dealing with the historic San Francisco conference which established the United Nations. He was ordered to remove the portrait or forfeit his fee. Roosevelt, the authorities ruled, had become too controversial a figure and was no longer considered "sufficiently dignified."

In Seattle, Washington, the US Navy barred John Maletta, an official of the longshoremen's union (a CIO union) from working on navy docks. Maletta, who attended the conference at Marseilles early last summer which formed the Maritime Federation of the World is now considered a "security risk" by the Navy. Union officials charged that the Navy was thus penalizing the union for sending delegates to an international conference. About 50 other members, mostly officials of this union, have also been barred from working ships berthed at navy docks. Thus the Navy attempts to break a union having progressive leadership.

In Washington, D.C., it has been revealed that the US Government is spending millions on its investigation of the degree of "loyalty" of government employees. "Twelve million dollars is being spent on collecting gossip as to the thoughts, private lives, associations, reading, political opinion and social views of government employees," Thurman Arnold, former justice of the US Circuit Court of Appeals declared.

In New York the magazine, *New Republic*, back in 1943 published a sample series of questions actually asked by Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) agents investigating the loyalty of government employees:

Does X mix with Negroes?
Does he support cooperatives?
Has he ever agitated for labor unions?
Has he ever criticized the Un-American Committee?
Does he stay up late at night?
Has he condemned the poll tax?
Does he hire Jews?

This is how far the United States has progressed. Gradually, the influence of the fascist-minded minorities, made up of men who fear the people, who wish to restrain the public in its expression of the popular will, who wish to prevent any opinions aside from their own reactionary views from being put before the people, have been whittling away at the free institutions of the United States.

These are crucial days in America. There is a move afoot by an organized minority to change the American way of life, to destroy the nation's traditional freedoms. This minority is not composed of the people labeled in the headlines as "reds" or as "subversives."

Fascists Are The Real Menace

In fact most of those today smeared by the loose and often vicious use of the term "red," are the very ones who are struggling to preserve America's valuable freedoms. Groups such as Henry Wallace's Progressive Party are fighting this battle. Regardless of whether or not one subscribes to the economic or social platforms of such organizations it is obvious that they are champions of freedom, for with the restriction of the people's freedom, they stand to lose their ability to present their views and programs to the public.

It is not the left of center people who desire to destroy freedom in the United States today. Rather, the would be destroyers are the various gangs of native fascists who, using the word "communism" as a smoke screen, are trying to turn America ever further toward the path trod by Hitler's Germany.

These self-styled protectors of the American tradition make a mockery of the words "freedom" and "liberty" because by their mode of operation they demonstrate beyond doubt that it is these very things which they desire to destroy.

— *JOHN W. POWELL*

NEWS OF THE WEEK

Chiang Flees From Chungking; Asian Women's Conference

DURING the week the victorious People's Liberation Army continued its envelopment and annihilation of the remaining Kuomintang forces on the China mainland.

The defenses about Chungking have collapsed. Messages from Hongkong state that Chiang Kai-shek has left Chungking for Chengtu, which is expected to be the next Nationalist capital. PLA spearheads are reported within eight miles of Chungking and their entry into the city is expected hourly.

News from Washington states that Premier Yen Hsi-shan has formed a "Total War Committee," and that the last United States diplomat left Chungking last week.

In east Szechuen, the PLA liberated Shihchu county seat, about 150 kilometers northeast of Chungking, on November 19. The greater part of two Kuomintang divisions were routed and seven hundred men captured in the vicinity of Shihchu.

Near the south Szechuen border, part of the Kuomintang 9th, 76th and 243rd divisions were knocked out south of the highway county seat Pengshui, and 2,300 Kuomintang troops were captured in three days up to November 21.

In Kweichow province, further south, PLA forces driving westward from the provincial capital, Kweiyang, towards Kunming, the provincial capital of Yunnan, captured four county towns—Anshun, Pingpa, Chenning and Puting. A Kuomintang division was wiped out in the area.

Peking radio confirmed the report of the capture of the river port of Wuchow, in east Kwangsi province. Wuchow is one of the province's four big cities, and through it flow the majority of export goods from the western provinces of Yunnan and Kweichow to Canton and Hongkong.

The Strategists Disagree

A Hongkong report on November 24 said that Li Tsung-jen would leave Hongkong during the week apparently to investigate the chances of obtaining American aid for a Kuomintang splinter group under his direction. The report said that Li gave this information to Rear-Admiral Barkey, Commander of the American 7th Task Fleet, who paid him a courtesy call in a Hongkong hospital last week.

Earlier Li, who arrived in Hongkong for the treatment of a stomach ailment, was reported in the Chinese press to have dispatched a telegram to Kwangtung and Kwangsi leaders on Hainan Island saying that he would soon leave for the United States to obtain aid for the "Kwangtung-Kwangsi clique." This group is said to have some plans to sever connections with Chiang and continued fighting independently in south China.

Reports say that Chiang, who has some forces on Taiwan and who holds the Nationalist purse strings, favors the strategy of "trading space for time" while the Kwangsi general Pai Chung-hsi advocates "a decisive battle."

Besides this disagreement on "military strategy," there are said to be many other differences between Chiang and Pai considered difficult of a quick solution.

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Angus Ward Deported

IT was announced on November 23 that Mr. Angus Ward, American Consul-General in Mukden, and four of his assistants, had been convicted by the People's Court on charges of beating a Chinese servant and ordered to be deported from China.

Ward was sentenced to six months imprisonment, two of the other defendants to four months and the remaining two to three months, but sentences were suspended. Instead, they were all ordered to quit China.

Commenting on the case, the Peking *People's Daily* said that the sentences "entirely conform to the demand of the Chinese people . . . During the past six months, the imperialist elements in Shanghai, Tientsin and Nanking have several times shown their real countenances. But each time due punishment was meted out to them. This is a necessary step in safeguarding the rights of the public in a land where the people have become their own masters. The verdict in the Ward case once more serves as a warning to imperialist elements."

During the week it was reported that American Vice-Consul William Stokes in Mukden had been held in connection with an espionage trial at which ten Chinese, Japanese and Koreans were sentenced.

After this trial, Stokes was released and an order issued that the entire American Consulate staff in Mukden be deported.

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Peking Women's Conference

THE first session of the Peking women's representatives conference, representing over a million women in Peking, opened on November 26. The conference was attended by 372 women delegates from all walks of life and delegates to the coming Asian women's conference who have arrived in Peking.

In her opening speech, Chang Hsiao-mei, chairman of the conference, said that the conference will decide on the policy and tasks of women's work in Peking and form the Peking Democratic Women's Federation.

Mayor Nieh Jung-chen, who was present, called on the women to organize the broad masses of Peking women into production, to raise the cultural level of Peking women and to pay attention to women's welfare work.

Simone Bertrand, member of the preparatory committee of the Asian women's conference, and Amita Devi, Indian delegate and likewise a member of the preparatory committee, also spoke to the conference.

When Amita Devi told the conference that 30 Indian peasant leaders, including women, were sentenced to death by the Nehru government, a motion was passed by the delegates to lodge a strong protest with that government.

Asian Women's Conference

On December 6 there will open in Peking the Asian Women's Conference, sponsored by the World Federation of Democratic Women. Women throughout China are now busy making preparations for the conference. While delegates from Kiangsu province, from Nanking and Hankow are already on their way to Peking, elsewhere elections are being held. In Hopei province it is reported that women are collecting photographs which depict the heroic role played by women in the Anti-Japanese war and the people's war of liberation. These photographs, together with needlework and an embroidered map of Asia, will be displayed at an exhibition to be held in honor of the delegates to the conference.

Broadcasting over Peking radio to the women of Asia, Simone Bertrand, member of the Commission on Asia and Africa of the World Federation of Democratic Women, said that the convening of the conference will be a demonstration of the strength of the struggle of the women of Asia for national liberation and for the defense of the inalienable rights of women and children.

She said: "On behalf of democratic women in imperialist countries—the United States, France, Britain and the Netherlands—I express to our sisters in Asia, our dear sisters in Vietnam, Indonesia, Burma, China and Malaya, our sincerest affection and fighting solidarity.

"While they are oppressing and starving you in Asia," said the speaker, "the imperialists strive to intensify their exploitation of the workers at home. Our struggle is a common struggle. Every one of your victories over imperialism is a victory for us. Every inch of ground gained by our democratic forces at home is a step toward the independence of your people."

* * *

Salute to the WFTU

THIRTY-FIVE thousand workers, students, public functionaries and army men gathered in Peking on November 23 to celebrate the success of the trade union conference of Asian and Australasian countries.

The rally, held in the Forbidden City, was a sea of waving red flags and streamers, while above the rostrum hung the banner of the World Federation of Trade Unions, on either side of which were huge portraits of Chairman Mao Tze-tung and Generalissimo Stalin.

The national flags of the countries represented at the trade union conference decked the rostrum.

The huge audience broke into thunderous applause and hats and mufflers soared into the air when Louis Saillant and other members of the Executive Bureau of the WFTU and trade union delegates made their appearance.

In his opening speech on behalf of all circles in Peking, Hsiao Ming, chairman of the preparatory committee of the Peking Trade Union Council, stated: "The trade union conference of Asian and Australasian countries betokens the great solidarity of the working class of these countries and of the world. It signifies the success and further development of the struggle against imperialism and its lackeys."

Mayor Nieh Jung-chen of Peking stated that the people of the capital of China felt greatly honored that the trade union conference was held there, and pointed out that it was a great contribution to the defence of world peace and democracy.

"To build up the new China," he said, "we should learn from the experiences of the advanced working class of the world."

Lombardo Toledano, President of the Confederation of Workers of Latin America, said in his speech: "Latin America is represented here, and adds its voice to the voices of its brothers in Asia, from Indonesia, from Japan, from the Philippines, the people and the armies already on the march of colonial rebellion against imperialism.

"China is our elder brother, our example and our stimulant," he said. "Let us work together, all together and closely united, for a new world without imperialism and without dependent countries."

Luu Duc Pho, of Vietnam, said: "The oppressed nations of southeast Asia are closely linked up with China historically, geographically, culturally and socially. The victory of the Chinese people is of decisive importance for the nations of southeast Asia."

The Korean delegate, Choi Gen Dec, described the victory of the Chinese people as "a turning point in the history of the movements for national liberation."

During the rally, a scroll with the characters "Salute to the WFTU, faithful defender of world peace" and bouquets of white, yellow, red and purple chrysanthemums were presented to the Executive Bureau of the WFTU by those present, and the rally ended with the playing of the "Internationale."

* * *

The Pigmy Question

IN the United Nations General Assembly on November 23, Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Vyshinsky stated that the Soviet Union no longer regarded the Nationalist delegation to the United Nations as representing the Chinese people.

M. Vyshinsky said that the Soviet Union supported the Chinese People's Government claim, made in a cable last week to the Assembly president, General Carlos Romulo, that the present Kuomintang delegation no longer represented the Chinese people.

He made the statement before speaking on atomic energy, the subject for the day's debate.

After M. Vyshinsky's speech in the atomic energy debate, the Chinese Nationalist representative, Chieh Houkan, announced that in a few days his delegation would "present facts and documents and proof showing how the Soviet Union was violating the Charter of the United Nations" and was "guilty of crimes of a serious nature."

M. Vyshinsky then demanded to be heard on a point of order. He said that he had merely pointed out that China's only legal government had declared the "so-called delegation" no longer was accredited.

The Soviet Foreign Minister said that he would not now put the question of depriving the Nationalist delegation of its seats.

"But in view of the events in China we cannot consider these pygmies as a delegation," he added.

Chinese Magazines Say:

Education for production: national planning under the new democracy points up the great need for specialized training.

"IN June, 1949," writes Huang Yen-pei, in the *Chan Wan* (Outlook) for October, "I was travelling from Peking to Shanghai. An engineer who was on the same train said to me: 'We have been thinking about the country's railways. Our present mileage is about 27,000 kilometers. Within the next five years, it is proposed to add several thousand kilometers to this figure, including a few trunk lines. Steel and lumber supplies can be obtained. What worries us is the need for 40,000 engineers. There are only 6,000 in the country today.' "

Other examples of big lacks in trained personnel are cited. "Yet, is there any real lack of personnel?" asks the writer, and quotes the many letters and calls he received both in Shanghai and Peking from people seeking work. It is evident, he finds, that while quality may be lacking, quantity is not. The trouble is that while the present situation calls for workers with specialized training, "those persons seeking employment are those with only ordinary skill and background." This "paradox," that widespread unemployment should march side by side with giant gaps in trained personnel for the urgent work of reconstruction and development, "has been in existence for a long, long time."

"In the past," he continued, "the country never attended to large-scale reconstruction seriously, and the situation was not felt. But if the new democratic policy of developing production and promoting economic prosperity is to be realized, large numbers of qualified workers will be needed.

"If, for instance, the textile industry is to be developed from its present 4,000,000 spindles to 10,000,000, there will be a demand for textile engineers. If agricultural production is to be extensively improved, there will be demands for agricultural technicians. And these are but a few instances. . ."

Thirty years ago, the writer recalls, "the education of special workers in the agricultural and industrial fields was referred to as 'industrial education' and later as 'vocational education'." But industrial education, he points out, meant then "turning out men who would help capitalists accumulate capital," while vocational education, which aimed at providing help "for the common people to solve their livelihood problems," was neglected. The Chinese Vocational Educational Society, formed in 1917, "was allowed merely to drag on unsupported" and could make little or no headway "under the joint oppression of imperialism, feudalism and bureaucratic capitalism."

With the establishment of the Central People's Government, industrial and vocational education has an important contribution to make and faces a new era. Huang Yen-pei reports that larger numbers of students are already enrolling for the mechanical courses, while most of the current graduates in these courses have been absorbed into the employ of the government.

He urges that all existing talent be registered in the meantime, and that special attention be given, to "plans to provide educational facilities for the training of personnel needed for the execution of reconstruction projects."

He concludes his article by referring to the example of the Soviet Union in the matter of vocational training, and quotes the following facts from "The Soviet Educational System":—

(1) The higher institutions give training for first-class experts. The normal technical institutes give training for industrial, architectural, transportation and agricultural workers who are less highly trained.

(2) Before the October Revolution, middle-class vocational training was not developed. With the industrial, agricultural and cultural development of the country under socialism, vocational education in the Soviet Union registered great advances.

(3) In 1938, technical and vocational institutions possessed a total enrollment of 951,900, representing a 2,660 percent increase over pre-revolutionary Russia.

Chinese Papers Say:

All democratic parties and groups have a role to play in national reconstruction; Japanese troops have arrived in Taiwan; prostitution must be abolished.

COMMENTING on "The Democratic Parties and the United Front," the *Wen Hui Pao* on November 23, stated that all the democratic parties and groups have a decided historical role to play in coordination with and under the leadership of the Communist Party.

"During the period of the New Democracy, the existence of all the democratic parties and groups is necessitated by the exigencies of history," it said. "But the historical environments of China are different from those of the capitalist countries, and so the inter-relationship among the different parties must be vastly different from those in the countries where the bourgeoisie exercises a dictatorship. . . And the Common Political Program passed by the People's Political Consultative Conference is precisely the basic platform for all the political parties."

"Why is it that all the democratic parties must accept the leadership of the Communist Party?" asks the paper and goes on to explain that this is because of the development of history, that the working class is "the sole leadership influence of revolutions" and that the Communist Party has had the richest experiences in the revolutionary struggle with the result that it is the only party qualified to lead the people throughout the country both in revolution and national reconstruction.

"The historical missions of the various democratic parties after the liberation," continues the editorial, "must be basically different from those before the liberation. If we admit that there was need for the various democratic parties in the past to concentrate their fullest efforts to coordinate with the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party for the breaking up of the counter-revolutionary order, and the weakening and disintegration of the oppressive rule of the reactionaries, so it will be necessary for them hereafter to unite all their forces to follow the steps of the Communist Party, to augment the forces that are dedicated to the construction of New China, the consolidation of the revolutionary role of the people, and to exert efforts to discharge their respective shares in the mammoth task of national reconstruction.

"In these circumstances," it concludes, "it behooves all the various democratic parties to raise constantly their own political consciousness, their own political discipline, and to proceed with the ideological reform of their members individually, as well as to perfect their organizations. Only thus will the various democratic parties, with continuous progress and improvement, fulfil their historical roles."

Taiwan's Japanese Soldiers

The *Ta Kung Pao* of November 23 protests the arrival of Japanese soldiers in Taiwan after stating that the Yoshida Cabinet has admitted that some 4,000 Japanese naval and air force personnel have arrived to join the KMT forces on the island. "We therefore, protest in indignation to MacArthur of Tokyo, and in contemptuous rage to the defeated Japanese Fascists," the paper said.

After condemning the actions of Chiang Kai-shek, Chang Chun and Wu Te-chen and their intrigues with MacArthur and the Japanese reactionaries, the editorial warned that Taiwan, the last remaining stronghold of Chiang Kai-shek, will be liberated soon, and that "for Japanese troops to be dispatched to Taiwan at this juncture really amounts to having them sacrificed at the impending funeral of the KMT bandits.

"But, no amount of intriguing can alter the fact that Taiwan is a part of Chinese territory, nor can it prevent us from crossing the sea to liberate the island," the paper added. "American imperialism and Japanese imperialism together with their stooges, the KMT reactionaries, may not be satisfied with admitting defeat and may still try to put up a last stand in Taiwan. Yet nothing shall avail them, for they are doomed to failure and annihilation. . ."

Peking To Close Brothels

The second Conference of Representatives of Various Groups of People in Peking adopted a resolution calling for the closure of all brothels in that city according to the *Ta Kung Pao* of November 23:

"The prostitution system is a most cruel and inhuman form of exploitation perpetrated by the most barbarous elements of feudal influence," the paper said.

"For the preservation of human dignity, for the thorough liberation of women, our people's democratic New China absolutely cannot tolerate the continued existence of such a system. The resolution of the people of Peking will undoubtedly rouse the people throughout the country. The attitude of responsibility, concerning the future of the innocent prostitutes, as carried out in Peking, will moreover serve as an example for other places to follow. The people of the whole country, particularly the women throughout the country, must exert their utmost efforts to support the decision of the people of Peking, and ask for the extension of the enforcement of the decision to other areas."

Nigerian Emergency

IN the British African colony of Nigeria after a week of police violence against striking workers, the Governor of the colony, Sir John MacPherson, declared a state of emergency throughout the colony and imposed a press censorship in the eastern provinces on November 26.

Miners at Enugu, where the violence first broke out, have been on strike for a basic wage of five shillings tenpence. This has been opposed by the Nigerian Government on the ground that it would increase the price of coal.

During the weekend, police attacked the workers at the mine and killed between 20 and 40 strikers, according to reports from Lagos, Nigeria.

Since then protest strikes have spread. At Port Harcourt workers declared a general strike in sympathy with the Enugu miners. One person was killed when police opened fire on demonstrators.

At Onitsha, in the eastern provinces of Nigeria, police opened fire on demonstrators, after tear gas and baton charges had failed, and wounded three African workers.

At Aba, near Port Harcourt, it is reported that there were riots as a reprisal for the mine shootings.

The Governor of the colony, in consultation with the British Colonial Secretary, Mr. Arthur Creech-Jones, has appointed a commission of inquiry with the following terms of reference: "To inquire into and report on the recent disorders in Nigeria with special reference to the recent labor trouble at Enugu colliery and the events which followed."

Nigerian labor and political organizations, in an all-party united front, have formed an emergency committee to protest against the Enugu shooting. The committee passed a resolution declaring that the people of Nigeria would not entertain any inquiry committee whose composition was not acceptable to them.

It was also declared that it had no confidence in the Nigerian Government and that those responsible for the shooting should be tried.

A Poisonous Growth

On November 26, in Capetown, the Diocesan Synod of Capetown adopted a resolution condemning racial discrimination in South Africa.

The Right Rev. S. W. Lavis, Coadjutor Bishop of Capetown, declared: "The deadliest disease we suffer from in South Africa is color insanity. All of us are guilty of allowing this poisonous growth to come to a stage where we are reaping a dreadful harvest."

In England there was an impression that the present South African Government invented racial discrimination, but it would be sheer hypocrisy to say it was due to any one particular group, he added.

The Synod's resolution expressed deep concern at the deterioration in race relations reflected in "the dreadful uncertainty about the future which has gripped the colored African and Indian people."

It deplored the "threatened new attack on human rights, political status and economic security of non-Europeans" through the proposal to deprive colored people of political rights held since the institution of

constitutional government in the Cape by abolishing representation of Africans in the South African Parliament.

The resolution particularly condemned "the ever-increasing tendency to relegate non-Europeans solely to unskilled and low-paid kinds of work, contrary to Christian principles, cruel and unjust in practice and dangerous to the peace and welfare of our country as well as undermining the morals of our white fellow-citizens."

* * *

Will Germany Rise

M. PAUL Henri Spaak, President of the European Consultative Assembly, told a meeting of the European Movement in London that, with Germany already beginning to rise again, the counterbalance of Britain in Europe was indispensable.

"Should Britain lose interest in the question," he added, "I feel continental Europe—compelled by necessity—will organize herself without Great Britain. But such a solution appears to me not only most inadequate but also detestable. Our Europe is already far too mutilated."

M. Spaak further said that he was also convinced that in such a Europe Germany's part would be considerable. "Too considerable," he said.

* * *

Western War Games

IN Paris, the Chiefs of Staff of the 12 Atlantic Pact nations are meeting in what is described as "the biggest military planning conference in continental Europe since the war."

The conference will culminate this week with a meeting of the defense ministers of the twelve nations.

Conference sources said that the meetings would aim at the setting up of "an overall defense plan" for the twelve powers.

The British, United States and French Chiefs of Staff met with elaborate security precautions in Paris on November 28 in advance of four days of defense talks. They met in the French Ministry of Marine. Reporters and photographers were not allowed even to enter the ministry courtyard.

Well-informed quarters believe that the Chiefs of Staff studied the following three main points of North Atlantic defense:

1) Definition of defense zones, with a general defense line along the Rhine or the Elbe.

2) Mode of strategic intervention, based probably on General Bradley's five points for North Atlantic defense given to Congress last July at the time of the Atlantic military pact credit vote.

3) Consequences of decisions on the above: strength of divisions, coordination among the 12 nations of the land, sea and air forces, division of military assistance and equipment standardization.

General Bradley's "five points" include: that the United States would be charged with strategic bombing, that American and Western Union naval forces would conduct essential naval operations while other nations concerned would maintain their own harbor and coastal defenses, that the "hard core" of ground power would come from Europe, aided by other nations as they were able to mobilize.

The Week's Business

THE bullish development which has prevailed in the local market was finally checked this week when the Public Security Bureau, continuing its drive against speculation and manipulation, raided an additional number of underground banks and arrested several underground "bankers."

The East China Branch of the People's Bank meanwhile announced that 49 banks had been warned or penalized for keeping secret accounts, using funds for improper activities, and engaging in other illegal transactions. The banks were fined, suspended from admission to the Bank Clearing House for several days, and a number of responsible bank officials dismissed.

Consequently, the local financial market saw considerable improvement after Monday, with a levelling off of interests rates on call loans in the curb market. Against JMP150 to JMP160 per mille per day on November 23, the interest rate on loans on November 29 fell to between JMP50 and JMP60 per mille. Official interest rates among the banking circles were also reduced.

However, as a result of the curb on the underground banks, which were responsible for the issuance of a large number of checks on the market, the percentage of bad checks on the weekend, November 26, reached a record high of JMP6,069,709,476.

Despite the easing of the money situation, commodity prices registered considerable declines after November 28 with the speculative air thinning out. A comparison of the quotations at the bottom of this page will show that most prices dropped by 10 to 20 percent during the period from November 24 to 30.

Another development in the market was the degree of saturation reached by idle capital in absorbing supplies. The decline in speculative activities was reflected by the fact that the rate of increase in the interest rate on call loans in the past several weeks has far exceeded that of commodity prices, the turnover in most commodity markets has been below the normal level, and heavy sales have been reported in the cotton yarn and cloth market.

The sale of rice by the Shanghai Food Company through the local retail shops as well as the dumping of other supplies on the market also proved effective in checking the price rise. On November 16, the difference between the prices in the wholesale rice market and retail shops was as great as 100 percent. During the period from November 20 to 25, a total of 10,361,689 piculs of rice was sold through the retail shops.

Following this general bearish trend, the local Commodity Tax Bureau slashed the tax rate on cotton yarn by 25 percent, and rates on other commodities by varying degrees.

In the foreign trade field, some 1,779 barrels of diesel oil were imported during the month, while export goods aggregated 2,070,000 kilograms, including hog bristles, dried yolk and protein, cow hide, nut galls, silk, wool, embroideries, cotton cloth, silk piece goods, woolen blankets, porcelain ware, straw hats, feathers and other items, according to a report in the *Sin Wah Jih Pao* on November 29.

Official quarters also revealed some interesting figures on the foreign trade of Shanghai from June to October. During the five-month period, the goods imported into this port were valued at JMP27,266,580,000, or the equivalent of US$10,302,000. Raw cotton topped the list of the import items, constituting 17.59 percent of the total.

During the same period, JMP18,-277,170,000 or US$5,271,500 worth of supplies were exported from Shanghai, among which the main items were animal and animal products, tea, oils and wax, and cotton woven and knitted goods.

The fact that the value of the import goods exceeded that of the export goods indicated that under the present circumstances when the nation's economy is to be revived the import of machineries from abroad is indispensable. Only after the achievement of recovery and the development of the economy can the favorable factors in the foreign trade of this country be maintained.

Local commercial circles, anticipating the momentary liberation of Chungking, predicted better business in many lines. According to one report, some 25,000 tons of tung oil as well as large quantities of bristles and other native products of the area will be available for immediate shipment to Shanghai. Some concern, however, was expressed over rumors of last minute looting and destruction by the Nationalists prior to their departure.

Quotations

Following is a listing of representative commodity prices for the past week:

	Nov. 23 JMP	Nov. 30 JMP
Parity Unit	3,158	2,684
US dollar (note)	9,500	10,800
20's yarn	3,370,000	2,700,000
12-lb. cloth	150,000	120,000
Rice, 1st grade	135,000	125,000
Peanut oil	335,000	285,000
Coal briquette	13,000	19,300

The Review's English Lesson CVIII

More Questions

WE acknowledge with pleasure a letter from William Wang and Mary Lee, of Hangchow, who say that they use the *Review* as English reading in school. They ask us some questions, which we shall answer first this week, before continuing with Mr. Shih's questions:

Flushing Meadow: This appeared in a story in News of the Week in the October 29 issue of the *Review*, which concerned the election of Yugoslavia to fill one of the vacant seats in the United Nations Security Council. The story contained this sentence: "Thus Yugoslavia was elected, a result that had been foreseen for some time, according to reports from Flushing Meadow." Flushing Meadow is a place on Long Island, near New York City, where the temporary headquarters of the United Nations is located.

To developed: Our readers have caught us in a typographical error. In the English Lesson (September 17 issue), defining the term "national capitalism," this clause appeared: ". . . where a certain amount of native, national capitalism has managed to developed within such a nation. . . ." The correct expression is, "has managed to develop," using the infinitive, or, more simply, "has developed," using the past participle. The past participle can never be linked with the infinitive sign "to."

Various minority people: In the October 1 issue, "PPCC Proclaims Republic," Liu Shao-chi was quoted as saying that the Chinese Communist Party participates in the People's Political Consultative Council as one political party and will cooperate with other democratic parties, people's associations, various minority people. . ." This phrase appears to have been badly translated. Mr. Liu's meaning obviously was that representatives of the Chinese Communist Party would participate in the PPCC together with representatives of other democratic parties, representatives of people's associations, and representatives of the minority groups of China. However, leaving the beginning of the sentence as translated, the last phrase should be "various minority peoples" or "various minority groups," since the adjective "various" calls for a plural noun.

* * *

AND now to return to our list of expressions submitted by another reader:

Vantage points: This phrase appeared in "An Open Letter to Passengers on the 'General Gordon,'" in the September 24 issue. The sentence began, "It would appear that some of those who observe the China scene from vantage points in the United States must have their wires crossed. . . ." A vantage point is a point of advantage, as in this instance for seeing, observing and understanding what is going on. Thus, "He got an excellent view of the parade from his vantage point on the roof." The phrase is used ironically above: the writer implies that those who pass judgment on the China scene, while a great distance from it, may think they know it all, but very often they only "have their wires crossed"—i.e., are confused, ignorant or possibly malicious.

Presently: The sentence was, "All sensible people know that there is only one way to end China's civil war and that is via the method presently being used by the People's forces." The dictionary says that "presently" as an adverb means at once, immediately, soon, shortly, before long. However, since the adjective "present" means, among other things, now existing or in process, it seems perfectly reasonable to use the adverbial form to express the same meaning, especially in examples like the above, where the context clearly shows that "now" is the meaning rather than "soon." But there is another point here to be considered. Since "being used" expresses the idea of "now," the "presently" adds nothing to the sense, and is superfluous: ". . . the method being used . . . " is sufficient.

All territory: A territory is either the whole extent of land and waters composing a state, or a part. Thus, in one sense, one could say, "all the territories composing China," or, "all the territory of China." In the sentence, "The PLA will liberate all the territory of the country," two "the's" seem necessary; one way to rephrase it would be, "liberate the whole territory of China."

Method of approach: This phrase is most usually employed in connection with the consideration of a plan, problem, etc., in order to carry it out or solve it. "Method" is way, manner, style; "approach" is to come near, to go up to in order to come to grips with. In other words, way or style of undertaking or dealing with. For example, the KMT, in dealing with the problem of a hungry and dissatisfied citizenry, used its peculiar and inadequate method of approach: it squeezed the peasants in the country and the small merchants and workers in the city, stole what it could, and loudly called upon foreign aid to cover its own depredations and keep itself in power longer.

Came into power: Means the same as "came to power;" it doesn't matter which form is used. In other connections, "into" is used to mean motion from outside to inside, as "he came into the room." "To" means motion up to and stopping, as "he came to the door" (he didn't go through the doorway). Logically, there is very little choice as far as "to" or "into" power is concerned—but then, English is all too often illogical.

Figured out: The sentence was, "The Communists, both in China and Russia, as well as in other countries, long ago figured out the real basis of racial antagonisms. . . ." Colloquially, "figure out" means to solve, as a problem or difficulty; to reason through to a solution. "To figure" is to calculate or plan, as "He figured on getting a job, but failed."

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